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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

A NEW YORK EPISODE.

BY EDITH BROWN NELSON.

Author of "Joined for Life," "Hidden From Sight," "Tales of the Period," "My Schoolmate's Story," Etc., Etc.

CHAPTER V.

It is now more than three weeks since Dr. Felix took up his abode with us, and yet he lingers in New York. He has had abundant time and opportunity to "study out my difficulties" as he intimated he should do, or is he waiting longer to study out *me*? With regard to the first purpose, in a few days he assured me that nothing could be done till papa's return from the West, of which he should receive due intimation, and that my best and safest policy in the meantime towards Aunt Flavia should be strict neutrality.

"O, of course, that is the British lion's policy, always."

I had answered petishly, for neither education or temperament had fitted me to wait patiently at any time, and now as it did seem hard I could not unravel this tangled skein in a life hitherto so careless, brilliant and prosperous. I did not much approve of my silly having so many long conversations with Auntie, for one thing, and that he should watch me so closely for another. Yet the observer is so eccentric in all his ways that, after a while, I ceased to care for this, any more than for his unpleasant candor of speech and manner. He does not scruple to tell me when I act more frivolously than usual, or when *he*, as tho' I were a little child, for this and that folly of speech and action; and my vivacious asperity in repudiating his interference, only seems to increase his perseverance in that herculean labor of trying to make me believe myself better than I am, and the provoking part of it is that I felt myself losing my independence, inch by inch.

The spoilt child of the past had resisted nauseous medicines "to do her good;" the wilful woman of the present repulsed good advice with the same aversion. Poor Dr. Felix! I made myself so odious in these days it must have been nothing but natural obstinacy that upheld his purpose. But it is not always safe to count on the influence of a quiet but most determined nature is brought to bear. The whole household succumbed to it. In a most extraordinary manner Mr. Fisher was obeyed like the orders of a veritable master before he has been a week with us.

I hear Aunt Flavia remonstrate against his choice of the room in the house, instead of one of the half dozen elegantly furnished apartments reserved for our guests, as though he were the Great Mogul instead of a doctor with "out a degree," as he is fond of calling himself. I hear paens perpetually chanted in his honor from the humbler regions of the basement, where the portly person of the kitchen sometimes clash in the persons of divers independent descendants of the kings of Ulster and Connaught. Julie, that little parrot, is ready, turning her nimble tongue to eugotistic strains concerning *"le bon docteur,"* and his numerous acts of unostentatious benevolence among the poor of the city; and I, instead of being gratified by our unimpeachable person in the house, find myself soon superseded, even in the affections of my lapdog, by this ill-dressed, middle-aged Englishman. Is it only that I am destitute of a kind heart and unworldly nature, or does Dr. Feather really combine with these a secret authority recognized by all in the household myself? More than once I had actually detected him in grave consultation with Aunt Flavia over the household accounts, and although my extravagance is proverbial in dress, or any other expensive whim that strikes my fancy, is not checked, I begin to wonder uneasily why I am the only exception to a palpable resolution in the family expenditures. Moved by a mutual love of ease, Aunt Flavia and I had hitherto let everything in parlor, kitchen and stable go, subject to the caprice or indolence of helps, male and female, if they were good enough to serve up handsome entertainments for ourselves and friends, see that we had the carriage in the moment it was ordered, and that our chocolate was frothed to a nicety every morning. It is not to be expected, of course, that queens of society should interest themselves with queens of the kitchen, and in common with many other fashionable friends we were in abject subjection to our servants and dressmakers. It was the commencement of evening at Dr. Feather's temerity in ordering out of the billiard room a choice gathering of the sons and daughters of Erin who had been liberally invited to amuse themselves therein by that ruler of the roast, yclept Mrs. Mollie Dougherty. By many similar acts of authority our visitor astonished me; but I could only form conjectures as to his right in assuming such. I could ask no questions of my aunt. A miserable distrust now existed between us that rendered the discussion of the most commonplace subjects unsafe. And then I did not like to ask the doctor himself unpleasant questions, because papa evidently liked and trusted him, and because—because, though I secretly chafed at the knowledge, I was beginning to like and respect him too.

As day after day passed in this strange visitor's society, hearing his talk, sometimes truly brilliant, always good and wise—noticing his bearing among our fashionable friends, invariably manly and dignified, despite his shabby coat, a change came suddenly upon my feelings which at first I attributed to the usual impulse of the coquette to make conquest of every heart that is hard to win. Alternately piqued and stimulated by a bluntness of manner and plainness of speech to which I was totally unaccustomed, I made a foolish resolution one day, and kept it only too well. You will say there was small honor or glory in the conquest of a white-haired, pennyless doctor, but remember he was the first man who had shown a mode exasperating indifference.

Not always is a woman won by brilliant attributes of mind, person, or position. For these she will often withhold her heart from earliest in caprice or pity.

It was the pity of a poor boy's passion that gave me yet the least grain of interest in Syd or his concerns, despite the spice of a sensible man's sangfroid that lured me to a dangerous experiment. It was like a child playing with chemicals of whose dangerous properties it is ignorant. Fire and by comes a bright flash, a loud explosion and the little one is badly burnt.

Thinking myself secure in having no heart to give, I sought to win one that each fresh hour of our acquaintance proved better worth the winning. I only thought of deceiving him, I never dreamed I could deceive myself. In the beginning, I confess I began with stereotyped fascinations; but it was impossible long to manufacture artificial virtues before the searching scrutiny of those grave, bright eyes, and I know now how soon I forgot to be anything but myself—gay, giddy, selfish but with some revelations of better and larger nature that might have existed if the atmosphere of Vanity Fair had not stunted its growth. This is what I was told long, long afterwards. I ceased to go out fine evenings in the week to the opera, ball or concert. I ceased to spend my mornings yawning over a novel or studying out a new toilette. This, the ordinary routine of a hundred girls similarly situated to myself, I exchanged for early morning rides in the park with Dr. Feather, and animated discussion or quarrel, just as it happened, with the same censor in the library. If he could make me reflect consistently one hour in the day he professed himself satisfied; or if I could tease him into impatience for one minute, I declared myself happy, for it was next to an impossibility to make him angry.

Singularly enough the friendship increasing each day between two such opposite dispositions, was not commented on or interfered with in any way by Aunt Flavia. She went her own way, doubtless, in her thoughts, apparently careless how subtly the thread of fate was being woven round our three lives, during the thousand follies of my last winter in New York.

New Year's Eve was the time appointed for the marriage of my "dearest friend," Delia Drummond, and as it would be a most sumptuous home wedding, Aunt Flavia and I had improvised toilettes of unusual brilliancy. But eager as I was for a successful appearance in general, to-night, I cared very little for it in comparison to the eager desire I felt to have a few words with Dr. Felix before I went up to dress. I had not seen him since breakfast, at luncheon his seat had been vacant, and as time passed I felt my cheeks burn with the idea that a certain freak I had indulged in only that morning in would present as a liberty. And yet he had only said yesterday with the kindly smile that shone often for me now:

"I know you now so well it is as impossible to be angry at your numerous efforts to put me in a passion as at the peck of a pigeon."

Since he considered me such a child, he surely would only laugh at my artful expedient to induce him to attend the party with us this evening. The silvery chime of the time-piece warns me to the labors of the follette in vain. Julie puts up a piteous protest:—

"Depechez vous, chere Mademoiselle, pour grace de Dieu!" I shake my head impatiently, and refuse to budge from the easy chair in the window, from whence I can watch the exits and entrances to and from the house.

At last here comes my knight of the sorrowful countenance, and yet more sorry raiment, striding over the crisp snow and flourishing a monstrosity in the shape of an umbrella, which he had all the national predilection for carrying, rain or shine. But something there is in his appearance to-day by which I am so much amused and delighted, that I astonish Julie by a gleeful laugh and abrupt flight from the room.

Fortune favors those who trust in her. Aunt Flavia was safely out of the way, undergoing a mysterious process of rejuvenation from the hands of a dumb-mouthed treasure, Minette, from which she would emerge presently radiant as though gifted with the magic cestus of Venus, and I had abundant time to see in what spirit my New Year's present had been received. We were such excellent friends by this time, that I believed my British lion would only "roar as gently as't were any sucking dove."

I ran down stairs like a school girl chanting a little French *chanson* the girls used to sing on breaking up days at the establishment where I had given the last French flourish to a most imperfect English education.

"*Vive le joie,*
Vive le plaisir,
Jolie fille je suis, je suis."

"I don't agree with you or your song at all," says my grave medico, looking up as I appear, with a gleam in his eyes that may be funny, or fierce or both, "you are not at all a pretty girl today for stealing away from me an old friend that has done me more faithful service than this dandy," and indignantly he casts down on the hall table the glossy silk hat of the latest style and most fashionable make that looked quite like another creature in. "And not satisfied with the audacity of a robbery, you must also add the ignominy of a donation," continues the doctor, as I hang my head and pout to hide an irreverent desire to laugh.

Thereupon he ascended to that den at the top of the house he inhabits and brings down to me from thence a parcel which I recognize with family pride.

"The very idea of Miss Doolittle condescending to care for the appearance of anybody but herself is too great to grasp in a moment," preceded the teasing voice.

In desperation I interrupted—

"Suppose, sir, I could not help the destruction of your wardrobe through the mischief of that little rascal of mine? Surely it is only just I should try to make amends? The overcoat, you know, was hanging on the chair in the hall just as you had it down, and the hat also, and Puck, before I could prevent him—"

"O, there, keep your society fibs for society," he broke in brusquely tho' I saw a suppressed laugh in his eyes. "Puck is a very good little friend of mine, and would esteem me as well in an old coat and hat as well as in new ones. He did not rob or destroy old clothes. Come, confess Miss Doolittle you were determined to turn the shabby old doctor into a line gentleman in time for the last ball given by you, at your New Years' reception to-morrow?" Angry at him for always misunderstanding even my rare better impulses, and actually in a passion as small as I did for his good opinion, I proudly turned away without another word.

By this time I thought so much of my friend that it chafed my spirit sorely to see him look indifferent to the choice of rooms in the house, instead of one of the half dozen elegantly furnished apartments reserved for our guests, as though he were the Great Mogul instead of a doctor with "out a degree," as he is fond of calling himself. I hear paens perpetually chanted in his honor from the humbler regions of the basement, where the portly person of the kitchen sometimes clash in the persons of divers independent descendants of the kings of Ulster and Connaught. Julie, that little parrot, is ready, turning her nimble tongue to eugotistic strains concerning *"le bon docteur,"* and his numerous acts of unostentatious benevolence among the poor of the city; and I, instead of being gratified by our unimpeachable person in the house, find myself soon superseded, even in the affections of my lapdog, by this ill-dressed, middle-aged Englishman. Is it only that I am destitute of a kind heart and unworldly nature, or does Dr. Feather really combine with these a secret authority recognized by all in the household myself? More than once I had actually detected him in grave consultation with Aunt Flavia over the household accounts, and although my extravagance is proverbial in dress, or any other expensive whim that strikes my fancy, is not checked, I begin to wonder uneasily why I am the only exception to a palpable resolution in the family expenditures. Moved by a mutual love of ease, Aunt Flavia and I had hitherto let everything in parlor, kitchen and stable go, subject to the caprice or indolence of helps, male and female, if they were good enough to serve up handsome entertainments for ourselves and friends, see that we had the carriage in the moment it was ordered, and that our chocolate was frothed to a nicety every morning. It is not to be expected, of course, that queens of society should interest themselves with queens of the kitchen, and in common with many other fashionable friends we were in abject subjection to our servants and dressmakers. It was the commencement of evening at Dr. Feather's temerity in ordering out of the billiard room a choice gathering of the sons and daughters of Erin who had been liberally invited to amuse themselves therein by that ruler of the roast, yclept Mrs. Mollie Dougherty. By many similar acts of authority our visitor astonished me; but I could only form conjectures as to his right in assuming such. I could ask no questions of my aunt. A miserable distrust now existed between us that rendered the discussion of the most commonplace subjects unsafe. And then I did not like to ask the doctor himself unpleasant questions, because papa evidently liked and trusted him, and because—because, though I secretly chafed at the knowledge, I was beginning to like and respect him too.

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At last here comes my knight of the sorrowful countenance, and yet more sorry raiment, striding over the crisp snow and flourishing a monstrosity in the shape of an umbrella, which he had all the national predilection for carrying, rain or shine. But something there is in his appearance to-day by which I am so much amused and

CORN.

A Fine New American Poem.

The following striking poem appears in the February number of *Lippincott's Magazine*, and should be read by all:

To-day the woods are trembling through and through
With shimmering forms, that flash into my view.
Then melt in green as dawn-stars melt in blue.
The leaves that wave against my cheek caress
Like women's hands: the embracing boughs express
A subtlety of mighty tenderness;
The copse-depths into little noises start,
That sound anon like beatings of a heart,
Anon like talk 'twixt lips not far apart.
The beech dreams balm, as a dreamer hums a song,
Through whose vague sweet float expirations strong
From lithe young hickories, breathed deep and long
With stress and urgence hold of inward spring,
And ecstacy of burgeoning.
Now, since the dew plashed road of morn is dry,
Come dustier smells, linked in soft company,
Like velvet slippered ladies pacing by.
Long muscadines,
Like Jove's locks curled round foreheads of great pines,
Breathe out ambrosial passion from their vines.

I pray with mosses, ferns and flowers shy
That hither no gaze of men from human eye,
To lift adoring odors to the sky.
I hear faint bridal sighs of blissful green,
Dying to kindred alliances serene,
As dim lights melt into a pleasant sheen.
I start at fragmentary whispers, blown
From undertalks of leafy loves unknown,
Vague purports sweet, of inarticulate tone.

Dreaming of gods, men, nuns and brides, between
Old companies of oaks that inward lean
To join their radiant amplitudes of green.
I slowly move, with ranging looks that pass
Up from the matted miracles of grass
Into yon veined complex of space,
Where sky and tangle interlace
So close the heaven of blue is seen
Inwoven with a heaven of green.

I wander to the zigzag cornered fence
Where sassafras, enwreathed in brambles dense,
Contests with stolid vehemence
The march of culture, settling limb and thorn,
Like pikes, against the army of the corn.

There, while I pause, before mine eyes,
Out of the silent corn-ranks, rise
Inward dignities
And large benignities and insights wise,
Graces and modest majesties.
Thus, without theft, I reap another's field,
And store quintuple harvests in my heart concealed.

See, out of a line a single corn-stem stands
Advanced beyond the forenost of his bands,
And waves, with sweeping signs of mute command,
And hottest thicket of the battling hedge
Thou lustrous stalk, that canst nor walk nor run

Still dost thou type the poet-soul sublime
That feels its mastery but in rhythmic time,
And sings up cowards with commanding rhyme—
Soul calm, like thee, yet salu, like thee, to grow
By double increment, above, below;
Soul homely, as thou art, yet rich in grace like thee,
Teaching the woman seldess chivalry.
That moves in gentle curves of courtesy:
Soul filled like thy long veins with sweetness dense

By every godlike sense
Transmuted from the four wild elements,
Thou reachest higher up than mortal man,
Yet every year dost backward wend in the mould,
And keepest hold
Upon the reverend and steadfast earth
That gave thee birth.
Yea, standest smiling in thy very grave.
Serene and brave,
With unremitting breath,
Inhaling life from death,
Thine epitaph writ in fruitage eloquent,
Thy living self thy monument.

As poets should,
Thou hast built up thy hardihood
With sweet, strengthening cheer,
Drawn in select proportion fair
From solid mould and vagrant air;
From rarrow sustenance and scant,
And joyful light:
From antique ashes, whose departed flame
In thee has lived its final longer fame,
From wounds and balms:
From storms or calms,
From potsherds and dry bones,
And ruin-stones.
So to the vigorous substance thou hast wrought
Whate'er the hand of Circumstance hath brought.

Yea, into cool solacing green hast spun
White radiance not from out the sun.
So thou dost unstultify the saw
Strength of earth with grace of heaven;
So idiot Death is put to shame and old
Into a one of higher mould;
So thou does reconcile the hot and cold,
The dark and bright,
And many a heart-perplexing opposite:

And so,
Akin by blood to high and low,
Fitly thou playest out thy poet's part,
Richly expending thy magnificent heart
In equal care to nourish lord or hind
The lowest in station:
Thou took'st from all that thou might'st give to all.

O steadfast dweller on the selfsame spot
Where thou wast born, that still reprisest not—
Type of the continued heart, the happy lot—
Deeply thy mild content rebukes the land
Whose restless homes, built on the shifting sand
Of trade, for ever rise and fall
With alternation mechanical,
Enduring scarce a day,
Then swept away
By swift displacements of incalculable tides
Whereon capricious Commerce rides.

Look, thou substantial spirit of content!
Across this little vale, thy continent,
To where, beyond it, the sheering mill
Yon old deserted Georgian hill
Bares to the sun his piteous aged crest
All sear and sorrowful,
By restless-hearted children left to lie
Untended there beneath the heedless sky.
As barbarous folk expose their old to die.
Upon that generous swelling side,
Now scarified
By keen neglect, and all unfurrowed save
By gullies red as lash-marks on a slave,
Dwelt once I knew a farmer, stout and tall,
And dreamed himself a tiller of the soil,
Scorning the smart of petty trade or trade's unsavory gain:
He sowed his soul with hopes of swifter gain:
Then sat him down and waited for the rain.
He sailed in borrowed ships of usury—
A foolish speculation came to pass—
Seeking the Fleece and finding misery.
Lulled by smooth-rippling loans, in idle mood
He let his little all on a game of Buy-and-Sell,
And turned each field into a gambler's hell.
Aye, as each year came round
My farmer to the neighboring city run,
Passed with a mournful anxious face
Into the banker's inner place,
Parleyed, excused, pleaded for longer grace,
Railed at the drought, the worm, the rust,
the grass,
Protested ne'er again 'twould come to pass
That he, a landsman, by the seaboard harass
Politely swallowed searching questions rude,
And kissed the dust to melt his Dive's mood,
At last, small loans by piteous chance secured,
He issues smiling from the fatal door,
And buys with them a little more of store.
Till his small borrowings will yield no more.
Aye, as each year declined,
With better grace the surrounding mind,
He mourned his fate unkind.
In dust, in rain, with night and main,
He cursed destruction, cursed his gains,
Fretted for news that made him fret again:
Snatched at vast schemes that came to naught,
And thrilled with Balls' and Bears' alternate wail—
In hope or fear alike for every pale.
And thus from year to year, through hope and fear,
With many a curse and many a secret tear,
Striving in vain his cloud of debt to clear.
At last
He woke to find his foolish dreaming past.
Behold his little best of life easy sold
Of quacks and scamps and all the vile array
That line the way
From thieving statesman down to petty knave:
Yea, saw himself, for all his bragging brave,
A gamester's catspaw and a banker's slave.
Then, worn and gray, and sick with deep unrest,
He fled away into the oblivious West,
Unmourned, unblest.

Old hill! old hill! thou gashed and hairy Lear,
Whom the divine Cordelia of the year,
E'en pitying Spring, will vainly strive to cheer,
King, but too poor for any man to own,
Discrowned, undaughtered and alone,
Yet shalt the great God turn thy fate,
And bring thee back into thy monarch's state
And majesty immaculate.
So, through hot waverings of the August morn,
A vision of great treasuries of corn
Thou bearest in thy vasty sides forlorn,
For hungering men and kine,
And their heart
That manfully shall take thy part,
And tend thee,
And defend thee,
With antique sinew and with modern art.

SIDNEY LANIER.

SAN FRANCISCO.

English Steamer Lost Off Chinese Coast—The Marysville Flood—A Million Dollars and One Life Lost—People's Independent Party Still in the Field.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 22.—The English steamer Mongol, from London, belonging to the New York and China Steamship Company, has been lost on the Nine Pins, twenty miles from Hong Kong. The Captain and wife, the first and fourth officers and the second and third engineers were lost. Fourteen lives were saved.

The loss of life at Marysville was overstated. So far as known, one child, aged six years, Joseph Lauchlen, was drowned. During the height of the flood a fire occurred in Westernhour's block. The roof was covered with women and children seeking refuge from the flood. The fire was finally subdued. Wednesday the water receded off the principal streets. The loss of personal property is estimated at one million. Assistance is asked for the many destitute. The farmers suffer much loss in the bottom lands.

The State Central Committee of the People's Independent party met yesterday afternoon in this city. There was a good attendance from all parts of the State. Resolutions were adopted to nominate candidates for all offices, State, local and Congressional, for the election of September, 1875; also to call a State Convention during the summer to nominate candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State officers and members of Congress. Adjourned to meet on call of the President.

Death of Hon. John H. Walker.

ERIE, PA., January 25.—Hon. John H Walker, President of the late Constitutional Convention of this State, died at his residence in this city this morning. He had been in feeble health for some months.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 21, 1875.

The following bills were reported:

Extending to married women the power to transfer loans, the same as corporation stock.

Relative to days of grace allowed on negotiable paper.

Relative to the preservation of the contents of ballot-boxes in Congressional contested elections.

Supplementary to the *quo warranto* act.

To punish the kidnapping and concealment of children.

Authorizing common pleas judges to hold orphans' courts in certain cases.

Extending the time for the completion of railroads.

The bill to divide the first normal school district, and the bill authorizing a husband or wife to convey property separately, were reported negatively.

The following bills were presented in place:

By Mr. Warfel—To simplify the pleadings and practice in personal actions.

Mr. Watson—Making judgment notes negotiable.

Mr. Jones—To punish the authors of threatening letters.

Mr. Shimer—Relative to streets in boroughs; also to limit local taxation.

Five hundred copies of the Compulsory Education bill were ordered printed.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Finance Committee to inquire whether a session next winter is necessary.

The following bills were read the third time, and passed: Repealing the act of April 9, 1872, regulating the election of school directors of Pittsburgh, and authorizing the trustees of Erie academy to sell real estate.

The following bills passed the second reading: The bill authorizing the entry of compulsory non-suits, and the bill to repeal so much of the Pennsylvania Township Road law as applies to Indian township.

The following passed the first reading: Amending the game law; regulating schools; and making the Presbyterian General Assembly successors to the Presbyterian House.

HOUSE.

The Speaker announced the following standing committees:

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

Constitutional Amendments—Messrs. Gunster, Spang, Lusk, Gross, Irwin (Allegheny), Reighard, Siegert, Withington, Yerkes, Fincher, Mitchell, Myers, Brinley, Bickey, Rayburn, Wolfe, Browne (Erie), Gehr, Elsey.

Ways and Means—Messrs. Mackey, Parker, Spang, Conrad, Achenbach, Embick, Foster (Schuylkill), Stotzer, Large S. P., Lusk, Lawton, Landis, Campbell, Gunster, Patterson, Roney, Thompson (Armstrong), Craikshank, Morgan (Lawrence), Maley.

Appropriations—Messrs. Reighard, Hetrick, Wanner, Everhart, Dayarmon, Irwin (North ampton), German, Fleming, Bowman, Thompson, Sutton, (Chester), Rice, Thompson, (Indiana), Vogdes, Wendt, Williams (Susquehanna), Bigham, Foulk, Swain, Kelley.

Judiciary (General)—Messrs. Parker, Withington, Eldred, Spang, Reighard, Wanner, Lewis, Lazarus, Bailey, Bannister, Bickey, Mitchell, Wylin, Reyburn, Shonk, Smith, (Chester), Christy, Jackson, Rawlins, Brown (Erie).

Municipal Corporations.—Messrs. Crawford, Richardson, Schoonmaker, Linett, Gemmell, Kennedy, Miller (Philadelphia), Wilson, Zern, Douglass, Faulkenburg, Lewis, Long, Newell, Salter, Wood, Lindsey, Shonk.

Public Buildings—Messrs. Hetrick, Fincher, Andre, Bailey, Parke, Boyer, Hartshorn, Foster, Munford, Petroff, Allen, Logan (Erie), Miller (Somerset), Montgomery.

Agriculture—Messrs. Cox, Hartshorn, Foster, Willett, Logan (Crawford), Lynott (Berks), Spicer, Talley, Yerkes, Wimmer, Rodgers, Mackey, Hemphill, Mitchell, Ingram, Roney, Salter, Vogdes, Hall, Douglas, Yeskel, Judson, Locust, Lawton, Bannister, Bowman, Butler, Gunster, Hartshorn, Thornton, Hannan, Darby, Kistler, Parke, Anstine, Allen, Brown (Northumberland), Swasand, Logan (Erie,) Miner, Patterson, Rawlins, Rosenmiller, Morgan.

Railroads.—Messrs. Wimmer, Crawford, Carson, Conrad, Eldred, Graff, Gross, Hannan, Henry, Everhart, Dimmick, Hemphill, Reynolds, Losch, Morgan (Lawrence), Newell, Wendt, Wood, Stoner, Salter.

Education—Messrs. Everhart, Barnett, Fincher, Law, Pallatt, Steck, Stotzer, Wilson, Wise, Rodgers, Sturtevant, Campbell, Mumper, Shipherd, John, Logan (Erie), Stewart, Londenslager; Kimmel, Mateer.

Accounts and Expenditures—Messrs. Sturtevant, Backus, Darbey, Mateer, McNite, Pallatt, Piper, Butler, Goldsmith, Snyder, Hatz, Brown (Erie), Ketner, Lazarus, Bailey, Hess, Hill, Heffer, Wolfe, Losch.

Mines and Manufactures—Messrs. Hetrick, Carson, Knipe, Miller (Philadelphia), Mc Asy, Large, A., Richardson, Stotzer, Ringgold, Hall, Bigham, Foulk, Swain, Kelley, Bannister, Hunn, Leigh, McGowan, Miner.

Elections—Messrs. Stanton, McHenry, Stahle, Brown (Jefferson), Faunce, Hannan, Irwin (Allegheny), Lscron, Dickey, Hall, Knight, Moorehip, Morgan (Lawrence), Quirk, Smart, John.

Insurance—Messrs. Spang, Wishart, Loftus, Aughenbaugh, Rutter, Agnew, Allen, Bailey, Gehr, Good, Kimmell, Reyburn, Wood.

Corporations—Messrs. Mackey, Gunster, Everhart, Fogle, Henry, Holland, Harp, Mumper, Swann, Williams (Clarion), Achenbach, Bowman, Billingsley, Gemmell, Hobbs, Jackson, Londenschlager, Rice, Sumney.

Militia—Messrs. Morgan, Dayarmon, Harvey, Large, S. P., Miller (Berks), Mumper, Reutter, Ryan, Willett, Billingsley, Campbell, John, Beck, Bell, Bruner, Hoffman, Miller (Somerset).

Manufacturing—Messrs. Fincher, Irwin (Allegheny), Cox, Carver, Gross, Large, S. P., Loftus, Miller (Berks), Harvey, Richardson, Boyer, Hemphill, Mitchell, Ryan, Edgar, Smiley, Falkenburg, Findley, Long, Fortenbaugh.

Printing—Messrs. Stahle, Plummer, McNite, Buffington, Faunce, Hannan, Keiser, Kelly, Leech, Miller (Somerset), Nisley, Yeakle, Long, Petroff.

Bureau of Statistics—Messrs. Hollenbach, McHenry, Andre, Carver, Logan (Crawford), Monaghan, Bateer, Bigham, Foulk, Swain, Shonk, Thompson (Armstrong), Huhn, Lewis (Schuylkill), Yeakel, Moscrip, John, Morgan (Lawrence).

Counties and Townships—Messrs. Plummer, Lecorn, Keagle, Kelly, Ferry, Armstrong, Kimmel, Brown (Jefferson), Gunster, Hasson, Quirk, Roberts, Tracy, Agnew, Devereaux, Hampshire, Leigh, Sturgeon.

Compare Bills—Messrs. Eldred, Erwin (Northampton), Bedford, Gimmell, Jamison, McHenry, Andre, Carver, Edgar, Fleming, Kimmell, Mumford, Phelps, Stober, Thompson (Indiana), Wolfe.

Agriculture—Messrs. Smith (Berks), Logan, (Crawford), Anstine, Embick, Geiselman, Gaffey, Kerper, Myers, Shugert, Buck, Endsley, Goss, McGowan, Roberts, Rosenmiller, Souder, Summey, Treacy, Williams (Susquehanna).

City Passenger Railways—Messrs. Kennedy, Conrad, Dry, Gantner, Holland, Monaghan, Pallatt, Spicer, Worrall, Hays, Bakeoven, Hill, Leigh, Mateer, Monaghan, Patterson (Philadelphia), Petroff, Salter, O'Neill.

Iron and Coal—Messrs. Thornton, Williams (Clarion), Lewis (Luzerne), Mumper, Wishart, Boyer, Darling, Fogle, Gantner, Holland, Kenley, University, Clarion, Reverend, Strickenbaur (Allegheny), Miner, Morgan (Schuylkill), Shonk, Williams (Susquehanna).

Retrenchment and Reform—Messrs. Tonen, Shidle, McLane, Large, Andrew; Wise, Rutter, Roney, Mateer, Bunlson, Reutter, Roser, Thompson (Indiana), Bailey, Blatt, Boyd, Carey, Good, Hill.

Library—Messrs. Lewis (Luzerne), Shidle, Gemmell, Christy, Ringgold.

Mr. Foster, in place, presented a bill preventing violations of the usury laws, and prohibiting loans under the State control charging more than legal interest.

Mr. Irwin—Repealing the law of 1837 relating to fares on the Pittsburgh passenger railways.

Mr. Gunster—A new county bill.

Mr. Toner—Repealing the local option law.

Mr. Shidle—Relieving bituminous coal companies from the taxes paid by anthracite companies.

The Senate bill regulating the returns of process in the district courts passed its second reading.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SENATE.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 22, 1875.

Mr. Wood offered a resolution for a joint committee on medical practice. Passed. Messrs. Wood, Roebuck, Jones, Yerkes, and Anderson, of Crawford, were appointed as the committee on the part of the Senate. The resolution did not reach the House.

The following bills were passed finally:

Authorizing the entry of compulsory non-suits.

To repeal so much of the Penn township road law as applies to Indiana townships.

The bill regulating normal schools passed second reading.

The supplement to the game laws was postponed.

The following bills passed first reading:

Relative to days of grace for negotiable paper.

Relative to the preservation of the contents of ballot boxes in Congressional contested elections.

Supplement to the *quo warranto* act to punish kidnaping and concealment of children.

Authorizing Common Pleas Judges to hold Orphans' Courts in certain cases.

Extending the time for the completion of railroads.

The following bills were reported:

To provide for the surrender of the franchises of road companies within cities.

Supplement to the act regulating the formation of railroad companies.

HOUSE.

Mr. Stewart, of Lawrence, startled the Democrats by moving a resolution to rescind the Louisiana resolutions passed on the 12th. By drumming up the absent members they got enough votes to defeat it—70 to 64.

Mr. Humphreys offered a resolution for the appointment of a special committee on medical practice. Lost.

The Senate bill relative to Philadelphia magistrates passed first reading.

The Senate bill relative to process issued by abolished courts passed finally and has been signed by the Governor.

Both Houses agreed to adjourn to Wednesday night.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 20, 1875.

With the crowd which came up from Philadelphia to the Senatorial fight came some of the light-fingered gentry, who always mix with large gatherings for the purpose of plying their profession. This morning they "went through" several rooms in the hotels, the doors of which were left open by the occupants, and rifled them of all they could lay hands on. Senator Dunkel, Senator Albright, Representative Carson, ex-Representative Lawson, and others, were victimized, losing watches, jewelry and money. Fortunately the thieves were soon after spotted, and the plunder all found in their room at one of the hotels. The harvest was not a very rich one, and it was very soon spoiled.

The Speaker of the House did not announce his committees to-day, and that body is still unable to go to work. Three precious weeks have been wasted and nothing done. The Senate has already twenty-one bills on its calendar, five of which have passed and been sent to the House, and the rest are in a state of forwardness. The House managed to read one bill, to-day, for the first time, and that is all the legislation it has yet participated in. It is to be hoped it will get to work in earnest soon, and try to catch up with the Senate.

The bill thus read a first time in the House was Mr. Newmyer's bill to regulate the return of process issued out of courts abolished or changed by the Constitution, which passed the Senate finally to-day. As much of the process issued out of your District Court is returnable on Monday next, this bill must go through this week or be of no use. It can be read a second time in the House on Thursday and pass finally on Friday, if no obstacle is thrown in its way. The Allegheny members have done their best to raise obstacles to its prompt passage.

The Senate to-day reconsidered its vote rejecting the bill to permit defendants to testify in criminal cases, and the bill was then postponed. The reconsideration was brought about to enable its friends to present their arguments in its favor, the bill having been rejected without discussion. I do not imagine that the debate, when it occurs, will change any one vote, and there is not much probability of its passage.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1875.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The publishers of our ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, in the East, having discontinued its publication, we shall be unable to furnish it to subscribers hereafter. We ask the indulgence of our patrons, in this matter, for the reason that the failure is wholly beyond our control.

THE shipments of specie from New York, last week, were $3,682,068, and for the month, since January 1, $7,626,868. At this rate, we shall use up a year's supply of the precious metals in less than six months, and be further away from resumption than ever.

EXCLUSIVE of tea and coffee, the estimated revenue which the new bill, prepared by the Secretary of the Treasury, is expected to yield, amounts to $22,410,000. Inclusive of these, the amount is placed at $39,900,000. The bill should be passed without delay, since it would add several millions to the revenue of the next fiscal year by preventing large cargoes of the necessaries imported in duty from being landed under existing rates thereof.

THE Supreme Court, sitting at Philadelphia, has decided, in a case against that city, that it has original jurisdiction in cases of injunctions against all corporations, and that the word "corporations," as used in the third section of Art. 5 of the Constitution, includes public or municipal, as well as private corporations. While, however, the court is careful to assert this claim to original jurisdiction, it declines to exercise it, except in extreme cases, and prefers that all such cases should come before it upon appeal from the courts below.

IN MAINE, the pioneer Prohibition State, the people seem to have come to the conclusion that sumptuary regulations, as means of temperance reform, are not to be permanently relied on. Hence resort is again being had to the old abandoned instrumentalities of moral suasion, and it is stated that, in the cities of Bangor, Portland, Saco, and Lewiston it is doing greater good to-day than all the prohibitory laws in the world could accomplish. The same principle of temperance reform is also regaining a foothold in Massachusetts, from which it has been practically banished for a number of years.

WE MENTIONED, the other day, that several applications for the organization of new national banks had been made to the Comptroller of the Currency, since the passage of the new Finance bill. It appears that within five days after it received the President's signature, eighteen such applications, embracing an aggregate capital of $2,650,000, were made, all of them but two in the New England States, New York, New Jersey and our own State. Five other banks have since applied for an increase of $710,000 in their capital stock. This would seem to indicate that capitalists are beginning to grow tired of seeing their money lying idle and bringing in no return.

THE Louisville *Courier-Journal* affirms that the number of illiterate voters in Kentucky is rapidly on the increase, and that this increase is in a greater ratio than the increase of population; this, too, in face of the fact that there are few persons of foreign birth in the State, and but few immigrants. There are about 5,200 districts in the State, and not more than 100 are properly provided, even now, with schoolhouses. The *Courier-Journal* very pertinently says: "This fact carries with it the inference that, as a rule, no proper attention is given to popular education in the State." Of course there is not. Had there been, Kentucky would have been redeemed from Bourbonism years ago. The fifty thousand white children of school age there, who never enter a school at all, constitute the Democratic reserves.

THE number of prisoners annually discharged from the various penal institutions of the country, forms an army of startling importance. From the penitentiaries of New York city and Brooklyn, 4,252 were released last year, while 21,211 were dismissed from the workhouse at Blackwell's Island. During the same time the number recorded at the Albany penitentiary was 1,421, while 978 liberated convicts left the State prisons of the same State. Vast improvements have of late years been made in penitentiary discipline, introducing the productive industries in our correctional institutions, but we suspect that something more than hammers and shoe-lasts will be needed before this element of our population can be effectually reclaimed and elevated. The problem is one of the gravest social questions which confront our day and race.

THE Philadelphia *North American* notes a number of encouraging indications that point to a general revival in business activity during the present year. That paper says:

"The export trade in iron and the products thereof has progressed steadily, and the exports of textile fabrics from New England has taken a new start. The printing statistics of our gold and silver regions for 1874 show a greater product than ever. The last month decided headway in copper, lead and spelter. The Southern manufacturing interests have all made extraordinary progress. The national banking system is increasing at the South and West. Railway transaction is beginning to recover from the revulsion and to exhibit an increase of receipts. In many lines of traffic the country is becoming rapidly independent and self-sustaining. Shipbuilding has been active in all districts, but especially in the New England and Middle States. The great industrial interests of the North and West are in an improving condition. That the country is not really so impoverished as the croakers have represented is seen in the fact that the general trade of December of all the cities was unusually good."

REV. CHARLES KINGSLEY.

Many persons have been so accustomed to think of the Rev. Canon KINGSLEY as one of the chief apostles of muscular Christianity and vigorous living, that they could not help feeling some surprise at the announcement of his early death. The importance of health, the ethical value of strong muscles and well-strung nerves as essential to the full development of moral and even religious vitality and energy, is one of the ideas, or series of ideas, upon which Mr. KINGSLEY most earnestly insisted and which he as effectually, if not more effectually than any other English teacher, impressed upon his contemporaries. But his early death, we never hardly say, suggests no doubt as to the soundness of the doctrine he so powerfully inculcated, that man as a composite creature, having a body as well as a soul, may not neglect either element if he would adequately perform his part in the world. In dying prematurely he may, for ought we know, have merely paid the penalty incurred by ancestral ignorance of or contempt for such teaching.

Mr. KINGSLEY has lived a busy, and, perhaps upon the whole, an intellectually laborious life. His name, if we rightly remember, first became familiarly known to American readers in connection with a slight incident which strongly appealed to their republican sympathies. The Rev. Mr. KINGSLEY, curate of Eversley, so ran a newspaper paragraph, had preached a sermon on each parable of "DIVES and LAZARUS," which had given great offense to the Rector of the church in which the discourse was delivered. The preacher had boldly asserted that the relations between the rich and the poor, as sanctioned by the Church in England, were an outrage on civilization and a practical denial of the teaching and mission of CHRIST. While Mr. KINGSLEY was engaged in illustrating this charge, the Rector interrupted him, to say that he could not permit such sentiments to be uttered in his presence without protest and contradiction. This was the substance of the statement, and when soon afterwards Mr. KINGSLEY himself removed, "Alton Locke," made its appearance, some, perhaps many, read it with livelier feelings of interest and gratification as the work of a clergyman whose sympathy for the humble classes had been so frankly and fearlessly declared. No doubt many Americans gave the preacher credit for greater courage and independence than there was really any need or occasion for. In fact, Mr. KINGSLEY's position as the champion of the poor and obscure was not so isolated as it seemed to those who looked at English society from this side of the water. He was only one of a great number; a courageous, sympathetic man stirred by the popular, democratic spirit which had been since many years gathering in the British air and saying to those who had ears to hear that English feudalism was doomed in its last social strongholds, and that every Englishman, however lowly born, must be allowed to make the most of himself according to the law of duty and conscience.

At the time referred to, Mr. KINGSLEY was a very young man, and much of the spirit and teaching, both of his early sermons and books, was inspired by youthful sentimentalism. As he grew in years he learned to accept the government and the social system of his country as upon the whole satisfactory and worthy institutions, and when at lenghth he became Canon of Westminster, Queen's Chaplain and Cambridge Professor, he was as far from being a radical or an innovator in either Church or State as even the Rector who once rebuked his folly could desire. Hence he was one of those who would gladly see the Southern Confederacy established on the corner-stone of slavery, if thereby the Great Republic could be put out of England's way, and his sympathy with the oppressed seems to have suggested no scruples or misgivings when he took a leading part in defending and honoring Governor EYRE, for his atrocious administration in Jamaica.

Mr. KINGSLEY's books are always entertaining, and often instructive by what they suggest as well as by what they directly teach. To the cause of humanity he rendered valuable service by helping to popularize in the English Church the human or humanitarian side of Christianity. He also aided the cause of education by urging the importance of introducing sciences into the schools and by his own enthusiasm in the cultivation of natural history. His championship of physical education we have already mentioned. When in New York last year Mr. KINGSLEY, in explanation of his own activity as a teacher, made a statement, which it may interest some to recall. "I am," said Mr. KINGSLEY, "I am in the true and highest sense of the word, a Socialist, and I have always been; not that I learned it from FOURIER, but from a man far older and wiser than FOURIER—my master PLATO. I read PLATO in the public schools when I was a lad, and PLATO's Republic has been the lodestar and the guiding genius of my political and social thought, and I hope it will remain till I die."

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF PITTSBURGH.

We shall, on Wednesday next, February 3d, publish our statement of the business of Pittsburgh for 1874, similar to the annual statements hitherto published by us. The compilation now made has been very carefully put together, and every available source of information has been resorted to, for the purpose of making it full and correct. In the absence of a Board of Trade, to gather up and publish such statistics, the COMMERCIAL has given exclusive attention to that task, and is the only paper in the city that has made the subject a specialty.

Those who desire extra copies of the paper containing these statistics will oblige us by leaving their orders at our counting-room at any time before Monday evening.

Grapeshot or Cards?

Now that their full effect has been had and their force cannot be broken, we have a word to say about General Sheridan's famous "banditti" telegram and Secretary Belknap's decisive reply. "We all stand by you," in such instances, the country a few days since and shook with alarm and apprehension the counting houses, and quiet newspaper offices, and luxurious club rooms of Philadelphia and all the cities of the Atlantic coast.

Sheridan and Belknap are both experienced soldiers, trained in those very best of military schools—the camp and the battlefield—and they might be safely let alone to put down a riot in their own way. But no; the amateur statesmen of the North, who from behind their pastepots and scissors so glibly instruct General Grant and Congress how to deal with the vexed Southern question, are also proved field marshals and undertook with equal readiness to rebuke the Secretary of War and Lieutenant General for not quelling a riot on the same principles as you would report a prayer meeting or sell a yard of muslin.

Common sense should have taught any cool clear-headed man that these rough, pronounced, determined utterances were written, sent, and calculated for the latitude of riotous New Orleans. When Sheridan flashed over the wires his nervous messages, as electric as electricity itself, *and gave it himself at the same time to the local reporters*, it was intended not for President Grant, not for the Cabinet, not for Congress, not for the business offices and money markets of the peaceful North, but for New Orleans in riot, where the well-drilled White Leaguers, with the stolen cannon and rifles of the United States in their keeping, stood to their arms. When Belknap, equally ready and decided, telegraphed back, "The whole power of the United States Government stands behind you," that, too, was intended for the turbulent city, in whose streets hostile brigades lay watching each other.

It was the last, first thing, that cowed treason and saved the city.

Suppose that instead of his determined soldierly dispatch, making insurgent New Orleans aware that there was no hesitation, no indecision at headquarters, Secretary Belknap had telegraphed down to the scene of trouble Attorney General Black's celebrated opinion, rendered to Mr. Buchanan at a similarly critical moment, when the Administration was called on to confront the first sullen threat of armed rebellion! Louisiana would to-day be ravaged in the flames of civil war, and the whole country rent and shaken with the tread of gathering armies.

Or suppose he had telegraphed down a debate in Congress, or the resolutions of a metropolitan indignation meeting, or an editorial from the New York *Tribune* or *Times*, or one of their Philadelphia colleagues. Where would we be now? How many millions of dollars would it have cost us even by this time? How many Northern widows and orphans, and Southern ones as well, clothed in the "sere and yellow leaf"? What would be the price of gold at first call this morning? How many fortunes would be wrecked—how many homes broken up, and how many more widely and deeply the Government for vacillation and cowardice, and want of nerve and the knowledge how to deal with rioters and defiant insurrection?

Briefly, Sheridan was quelling a riot and dispersing a mob, and he did it on Napoleon's familiar principle of loading your cannon with grapeshot, and letting the fusees on the gun-carriages burn on the guns. We, for one, are glad and thankful that Mr. Sheridan sent those telegrams to the mob instead of his visiting card.—*Philadelphia Press.*

Encouraging Possibilities.

The tonnage of vessels built during the fiscal year ending with last June was 432,725—an increase of 70,040 tons over the corresponding period of the preceding year, and more than has been built in any other year since 1855. The total tonnage is 4,800,652 tons; an increase of 104,626 tons over 1873, and exclusive of the canal boat tonnage that amounts to 133,065 tons. Numbers were awarded to 700 vessels of 169,654 tons, of which 213 of 100 to 5,000 tons each were sea-going vessels, in the four months ending in November. The lowest packing made is returned at about 3,500,000 head last year, against 3,280,000 the year previous —an increase of some 200,000 head. The exports of the country increased $15,107,280 for the first nine months of the year, and exceeded the imports $17,715,870, where in the same period of the previous year the excess of imports was $37,271,881. The cotton crop registered 3,500,000 bales, with an economy in production that added many millions to the planters' profits, and the crop of the current year is already credited for $300,000,000. The business of Chicago in produce, wholesale and manufactures, is returned at $43,000,000 over that of 1873. Milwaukee shows an increase of almost $4,000,000 in wholesale trade. St. Louis added three to her two elevators. Though railway construction was inactive in many considerable roads were built and many old repaired. New quartz gold mines were found in Oregon, and the former in California and Nevada were made continued their yield. The herds of cattle and flocks of sheep were enlarged. Every part received more or less immigrants, and if manufacturing was dull, still new mills and additional furnaces were constructed in expectation of a better time. The grain crops were good.

Brief as is the reference to and remote from any approximation to a summary of affairs that can only be completed from returns that are not yet in, they sufficiently show that there is in the capacity for a great increase of all kinds, and the will and readiness in every section to improve this capacity to the utmost. They show that the possibilities have been tried in many places and ways with fortunate results; and this, too, when the evils of a previous year and uncertainty respecting the future obstructed enterprise and hindered its use. And showing this, they reveal what may be expected from the current year, provided a judicious policy inspirits and protects it. The simple fact that there is such a foundation is great encouragement. Without it the best effort would halt, and the wisest and most persistent labor advance slowly. But with such proof of what has been accomplished, appeals for assistance, for courage and fresh effort are wise, and happy results may be apprehended in every department, and therefore in the grand summary that marks the nation's way.—*Philadelphia North American.*

Circulars of instructions will be sent to customs officers throughout the country, in a few days, prescribing new regulations for the government of transportation of goods in bond from the seaboard and Canada to the interior.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1875.

Andrew Johnson's Election.

It was reported at the Capitol to-day that Andrew Johnson had been elected Senator from Tennessee. This was not welcome news to either Republicans or Democrats. The Democratic Senators think that Johnson, by the injudicious and intemperate course which he is sure to pursue, will do the party interests much damage. The Republicans, who know the character of the man, look forward to his stirring up the old sores on all occasions, and, although they may have no fear of meeting him in debate, they do not like the idea of having the Senate turned into an arena of perpetual wrangling.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 27, 1875.

The President at the Capitol.

The President went to the Capitol to-day and, accompanied by the Secretaries of State, the Navy and the Treasury, proceeded to his room in the Senate wing. It was rumored in some quarters that he came to the Capitol on matters connected with Southern affairs. This is not believed to be correct. He sent for Senator Cameron and Judge Orth, the Chairmen of the two Committees on Foreign Affairs, and also for Judge Edmunds, Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Senators Morton and Frelinghuysen, who are members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, were also sent for. The President remained in consultation with these gentlemen for a long time, and it is believed that the conference had reference to some questions connected with our foreign relations—possibly with Spain.

Dead-Lock in the House.

General Butler reported, in the House to-day, the Civil Rights bill from the Judiciary Committee. This is not the Senate bill. The Democratic minority immediately commenced a system of filibustering to prevent the bill being put on its passage. They have entirely blocked business, having, up to midnight, called the ayes and noes on dilatory motions twenty times. Both sides seem determined to make it a contest of physical endurance, and it was said to-night that the probability was that the struggle might last till Monday. It would not be surprising, however, if some arrangement was arrived at, or if some means should be discovered of checkmating the minority.

Bill Filed in the City.

It is currently reported to-night that William S. King, ex-Postmaster of the House, who is badly wanted by the Ways and Means Committee, has arrived here, but his whereabouts are, up to this time, a secret, as he wants to avoid the subpœna of the committee for the present. He is in consultation with counsel, it is said, and will voluntarily appear before the committee as soon as R. B. Irwin shall have concluded his evidence.

The Pennsylvania War Claims—The Adverse Report of the Committee—The Grounds for Their Decision—Some General Facts Concerning War Claims—Silcox Agents Looking For a Democratic Victory to Pay the Cotton Claims—Imperative Duty of Patriotic Citizens—Survey and Improvement of the Mouth of the Mississippi River—Plans Proposed—Report of the Board of Engineers.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1875.

The House Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bill for the relief of certain citizens of the counties of Adams, Bedford, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Somerset and York, in the State of Pennsylvania who suffered losses from union and rebel troops during the invasion of that State by Lee's army, in their report convey much information and information on this important subject. The claim may now be considered as finally and adversely disposed of.

The losses sustained by those border counties were adjudicated under an act of Assembly of Pennsylvania by Commissioners appointed for that purpose. The reports of these State Commissioners were filed with the Auditor General, and amounted in the aggregate to the following sums:

	Losses.
Adams county	$ 183,438 70
Franklin county, burning of Chambersburgh	1,625,425 55
Franklin county, other claims	886,053 30
Cumberland county	211,778 89½
York county	21,727 00
Fulton county	56,541 98
Bedford county	6,818 62
Somerset county	120 00
Total	$3,459,909 75½

PAYMENTS.

For relief of Chambersburgh, act of August 20, 1864	$100,000 00
For relief of Chambersburgh and vicinity, act of February 15, 1868	500,000 00
For relief of Chambersburgh and vicinity, act of May 27, 1871	300,000 00
	$900,000 00

A bill was introduced into the House of Representatives of the United States to authorize the Treasurer of the United States to pay the sum of $1,254,474 30 to the Governor of the State, on the day named, for the use of the citizens of the counties above named, according to the report of the Commissioners appointed by the State to ascertain what is due. This has not been obtained by them respectively from union and rebel troops.

On January 8, 1875, the committee made an adverse report upon the bill. That report was stated in this correspondence at that time. The report, with accompanying documents, has just been received from the Government Printing Office, and upon which the committee reject the claims of Pennsylvania are briefly stated as follows:

"That so far as any citizen of Pennsylvania furnished settlement he was entitled to commissary supplies, or so far as these were taken for the Union military forces, ample provision is made by law for their adjudication by application to the War Department."

And these have been, so far as presented and proved, duly paid. That the claims covered by this bill are mainly for property of various kinds destroyed, and, in many cases, destroyed by rebel troops during their invasion of Pennsylvania, including property damaged in battle, and in part for property damaged by Federal troops under military forces in battle or necessary military operations incident thereto. All these, the committee think, are in the sense of international law, claims of war, for the whole subject of the liability or duty of the Government in relation to these and similar claims, was fully discussed in the report from this committee made at March 26, 1874. The committee add that it is there shown that the Government is under no obligation or duty to compensate its citizens for property destroyed, ravaged or destroyed by the public enemy, nor in battle by the Government forces, or wantonly or unauthorized by its own troops, nor by actual and necessary Government military operations to repel a threatened attack of, or in advancing to meet, an enemy in flagrant war.

The committee think it is not deemed necessary to repeat or add to what is said in that report in support of the principles there stated.

The committee therefore recommend that the bill do lie on the table.

The number claims arising out of the war which have been filed in the Quartermaster General's office on July 1, 1874, amounted to 15,953 for $10,967,401 89. Of these, 881, claiming $1,032,484 88, have been reported, recommending allowance of $495,234 38, a reduction of $537,280 47; 528, claiming the sum of $694,152 19, have been reported unfavorably. Thus 1,409 claims have been disposed of, amounting, as presented, to $1,726,637 04, and there remained at the end of the year 12,544 claims, for $9,240,764 85.

On July 1, 1874, there were also 1,545 claims for transportation amounting to $2,278,278 84. Of these 1,310 have been disposed of, for the amount of $1,863,352 11. Ninety-five, amounting to $400,916 19, were rejected. Seventy-five, amounting to $117,935 41, were suspended. The remainder were either found for settlement or transferred to other Departments to which they properly pertained. There remained on 30th June, 1874, 235 accounts and claims for transportation, amounting to $613,526 11.

On July 1, 1874, there were on file 26,292 claims and accounts of a miscellaneous character, for $9,220,145 16.

"Five thousand and forty claims were approved, for $738,950 73, being a reduction in the amount as presented of $269,916 37; 540, amounting to $271,992 79, were rejected; 53, amounting to $5,703 25, were referred to other Departments to which they pertained; 6,180 accounts were approved, $442,956 93, being a reduction in the accounts as presented of $4,682 01; 35 accounts were rejected, amounting to $7,963 42; total disposed of, 11,848 accounts and claims, amounting, as presented, to $1,742,147 50. Thirteen thousand five hundred and ninety-seven miscellaneous claims and accounts remain on file, amounting to $7,477,997 66.

"Under the third section of the act of July 4, 1864, 1,940 claims, amounting to $235,966 85, for subsistence supplies alleged to have been used by the army or taken by officers for the use of the army, in the State of Pennsylvania or in rebellion, were filed in this office for examination; 73 claims, amounting to $66,712 93, were examined and recommended to the Third Auditor of the Treasury for payment; and 109 claims, amounting to $129,327 49, were examined and rejected.

"Under the joint resolution of Congress of July 25, 1866, and section three of the act of March 2, 1867, 175 certificates for commutation of rations to union soldiers while prisoners of war were received and paid to the claimants or their legal heirs. These payments amounted to $5,739 75."

One of the most serious features in the accession of the Democrats to power, should that lamentable end come, lies in the boldness already evinced by those in the South in already declaring that they will demand every dollar for cotton captured or destroyed during the operations of the Union forces in the Southern States during the rebellion. There are already on the ground scores of agents who have come for preparing their cases, and many have had the insolence to put in these claims even now. It is no credit to the law making power that they have authorized the payment of some of these. While Pennsylvania suffers for her losses in the war, many cotton claims have been settled in the South. As a premium for loyalty it is an expensive method of treating an impulse which should burn in the bosom of every patriotic citizen of the Union. It would be well for citizens who have financial business or social interests at stake, for those who are dependent for subsistence upon the activity of every kind of enterprise, to reflect upon the cost of permitting the Democratic party to secure the purse-strings of the nation. A prominent cotton claim agent from the South, the other day tauntingly exclaimed that all that was needed was two years of Democratic rule to witness the settlement of all the cotton claims held by citizens of the cotton States against the Government. The reply was made: "If that be the policy of the Democrats their reign will be limited to two years." Anyone who wishes to serve his country as effectually as the brave defenders of the Constitution and Union did a few years ago with their bayonets, should see that the cotton claim agents' wish be not realized.

The report of the Board of Engineers appointed under act of June 27, 1874, to make "A survey of the mouth of the Mississippi river, with a view to determine the best method of obtaining and maintaining a depth of water sufficient for the purposes of commerce, either by a canal from said river to the waters of the Gulf or by deepening one or more of the natural outlets of said river," contains much information of interest, in addition to that which has already been made public.

As there has been no example in this country of the improvement of a large river-mouth so as to give a deep water from the sea with much deeper water than naturally exists on its bar, the Board, in its consideration of what experience has elsewhere shown to be possible in such a case, has found its only examples in the mouths of European rivers.

There has been great difference of opinion among engineers, not only in this country, but in Europe, as to whether the best method of securing a deep water outlet from a sediment-bearing river which empties into a body of water, like the mouths of the Danube and the Rhone, into a nearly tideless sea, is by jetties or by a lateral canal.

At the Vistula, after vain attempts for many years to improve the natural mouth, the river formed a new outlet, and the old one, turned into a lateral canal, has long given the needful water-way to the important port of Dantzic.

At the mouth of the Danube, after the canal-system and the jettee-system had each been proposed by eminent authorities, and neither adopted, as a final plan it was decided, in order to do something, to try feeble jettees as a provisional scheme. The results were far better than the engineers expected, and the jettees, made permanent, give an admirable outlet to the Danube to-day.

At the mouth of the Rhone, the engineers, after trying for many years to open a good outlet by dikes, which, however, never reached the bar, abandoned that plan and built a jettee system, which is more than adequate to the wants of commerce.

While the results were so contradictory, no intelligent, at the command of the board about the above named foreign rivers was, except for the Danube, not recent and very meager.

The experience involved in the proper improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi are so great, and the work so costly, that it is imperative to obtain the best possible knowledge and judgment as to the method to be adopted. Accordingly, in order that the opinion of the board should be based on a full knowledge of what has been done, and of the latest results obtained elsewhere, in this most difficult branch of engineering, it was decided to visit the mouths of the rivers mentioned, and, as bearing on a canal and harbor, also the North Sea and Suez Canal.

The result of these examinations abroad while not conclusive in any manner has been gained on almost every point relating to the problem before them) has been to largely strengthen their estimate of the values for jetties, at the mouth of the Mississippi river, of the fascine dikes used in Holland by Caland in the improvement of the Mass mouth of the Rhine.

After returning from Europe, the board met in New Orleans, spending about three weeks, of which eight days were employed in examinations at the mouths of the Mississippi river, and at the site for a canal proposed by Captain Howell.

A number of locations for a canal were considered by the Board, among which may be mentioned the one proposed by Captain Howell, near Fort St. Philip, one leaving Pass la Loutre, about six miles inside its bar, and running north into deep water, about six miles from the pass, about six miles inside of its bar, and running east into deep water; and one obtained by closing the South Pass at is head by a dam and entering it by a canal and lock from the southwest Pass, and opening its mouth by dredging, the mouth being protected by jettees.

The site in the vicinity of Fort St. Philip was available, but met with one dissenting voice, as offering greater hopes of permanency than the others. The canal is about six ano one-third miles long through a country at no point more than four feet above tide and much through shallow lagoons.

The board decided that the canal should leave Pass a Loutre at a point about five and a half miles below Fort St. Philip, at such an angle with the river that vessels would be able to enter it easily; that about a mile from its beginning there should be a basin 1,000 feet by 2,500 feet, that before reaching the basin, and near it, there should be a lock, 500 feet long between its miter-sills, of 65 feet clear width, and with 27 feet on the sill at mean low tide; the part of the lock in the vicinity of the gates to be of masonry, for a piled foundation, with heavy grillage, the rest, under the prism of the lock to be of earth with reveted slopes of one upon one; guardgates to be placed above and below the locks; the canal to be 150 feet wide at bottom, 27 feet deep at mean low water, and with slopes of one-half (or one vertical on two horizontal), allowing these to flatten if the material of the cuts require gap stands on a slope of nearly one on one to a depth of 60 feet); leaving the basin, the canal to run in a straight line to the little lake beyond the levee, the bottom to be widen when it reaches 6 feet of water in the Gulf, and widening to 1,400 feet at 24 feet of water; beyond the depth of 12 feet in the Gulf to have no width of bottom.

The first cost of the canal is estimated at $10,286,500; annual cost of maintenance $60,885.

The methods which have been proposed for opening a passage through a bar at one of the mouths of the Mississippi are two.

First, by stirring up in some way the material of the bar, so that the current shall sweep it out into deep water. This is deemed impracticable.

Second, by confining a mouth of the river by jettees on the bar, so that, aided, if necessary, by artificial compression, the water shall be able to scour a channel through the bar, and to maintain it when once formed.

The passes carefully considered are the South and Southwest.

The South Pass is 700 feet, that of Southwest Pass is about 1,400 feet wide. The greater width of the latter is a serious objection; but, in the opinion of the Board, the South Pass, when improved, will be adequate to the present and prospective wants of commerce, and the expenditure required for the construction and maintenance of the works for the improvement of the South Pass is $7,942, 110, and for the Southwest Pass is $16,605,000. The cost of the Southwest Pass bar advances about three times as fast as the South Pass bar.

The South Pass being entirely adequate, the much greater cost of improving the larger pass would not, in the opinion of the Board, be warranted either by the somewhat greater ease in entering it in storms, or navigating it when once inside. The former is 12.4 miles long, the latter being 18 miles, and is lengthened only about one-third as fast as the latter.

The cost of improving Pass la Loutre would also be far greater than for South Pass, without advantages sufficient to justify the increased cost.

In the opinion of the Board, leaving cost aside for the moment, and assuming that one plan can be as easily executed and maintained as the other, there is no question but that the improvement of the South Pass would be best. It would give a good sea-entrance about 900 feet wide, and a minimum width in the pass of about 530 feet, while the width of the canal would be about 300 feet. It would offer no locks (liable to do or suffer injury) to delay the passage of vessels through it, and, with a long ample, unobstructed water-way to commerce in place of a narrow and obstructed one.

If the question of cost and maintenance be considered, we have for the canal, $11,514,200 against $7,942,110 for the South Pass.

The only remaining question is whether the two plans can be executed and maintained almost the same way.

For the canal, the difficult points are to maintain a coffer-dam and secure a stable foundation on which to build the masonry. By proper examinations, the foundations can be ascertained, and where coffer-dams can be maintained; and, although the masses of masonry are heavier than any which have been built in that region without settling, it is believed that, by the plan proposed, injurious settling would be prevented. The Board is therefore of opinion that the canal can be built at the estimated cost.

In the improvement of the South Pass, the difficult points are the control of the water entering it, the removal of the shoal, and the maintenance of a channel at the bar, and the execution and maintenance of that part of the jettees lying outside of the outer crest of the bar. While the proper method of control of the water at the head of the South Pass must be learned mainly by trial, great difficulty is not anticipated, only delay, which can be readily obtained on the Sulina. The construction and maintenance of the jettees beyond the crest of the bar is a difficult work, in which there will be contingencies arising from storms, etc. Heavy storms, either on the jettees themselves or on the material on which they rest, and from settling. A liberal allowance has been made for such contingencies, and there seems no reason to increase its estimate. Indeed, it is of opinion that experience in construction may very probably show that the crosssection of the jettees may be advantageously lessening the cost. If the jettees are constructed and maintained, the ends being prolonged as becomes necessary, the Board has no doubt that the desired depth will be obtained.

It therefore recommends that the South Pass of the Mississippi river be improved by the plan already given.

The Board concludes its report with the recommendation that, if Congress decides to open one of the passes of the river, the entire sum necessary to accomplish the work be appropriated at once, or in some way be made available.

If the mouth of the river is to be improved by jetties, the work, when once begun, should be pushed as rapidly as possible to its entire completion.

The Board is of opinion that the works it proposes for the improvement of the South Pass can be completed in three years.

DRB. R. K.

LOUISIANA.

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.

Some Witnesses Whom the Sub-Committee Overlooked.

Murder, Intimidation and Lawlessness Plenty in the Interior.

NEW ORLEANS, January 27.—The Congressional Committee met this morning, and the testimony of Governor Wells was continued. In regard to the abstraction of forty or fifty affidavits filed by Conservative counsel in the case of Natchitoches, he stated that all the papers from which the Board made their report were taken charge of by the clerks, and that he knew nothing directly of the disposition made of the papers after the Board had completed their sessions. In relation to the White League matter and bowie knife outrages in Rapides, he cited the case of one alleged killing, followed by another and inimidation from that cause; that general rumor said that two persons who had witnessed the killing—one a boy—were lacerated with bowie knives to prevent their disclosing anything; that it was the work of the White Leagues, and that in another parish where the method of frightening the negroes was to fire brickbats, or something similar, at them from a canoe, and in other ways intimidate them.

Touching his statement regarding the attempted assassination while at the City Hotel, on Sunday, November 29th, he stated, in substance, that on the Sunday named he was at the City Hotel, eating dinner alone, but was soon joined by a friend, with whom he had made an appointment, and that during the meal his friend, whose name he did not give, was called hurriedly from the dining-room, remaining meantime, and, finishing his meal, he arose and was leaving the room, when two men, strangers, who were sitting at an opposite table drinking wine, hurriedly arose and followed him to within a few feet of the door, where a gentleman who, with his wife and daughter, were sitting near the door leading to the hall, arose, and on the way out reached the door just in time to step between the Governor and the two men. As he walked into the hall he met his friend who, somewhat excited, hurried the Governor down stairs and to the pavement, and there told him that he had been called from the dining-room by one of his friends, who had stated that an attempt was to be made to assassinate the Governor there; that the two strangers were doubtless the assassins; and that, upon inquiry, no one about the hotel knew them. The only thing known was that they were registered as from Memphis, Tenn. He and his friend then went to his room, in Custom House street, where the matter was talked over, and finally it was decided that he should go to the Hotel and find accommodations elsewhere, which was done.

Counsel then desired the name of the friend, that he might be subpœnaed, but Mr. Wells declined giving it, stating that he had many reasons, one of which was the injury that might result to him; but, if permitted, he would consult with him and give his name. Counsel insisted, when the Chairman stated that he had been informed by a gentleman and prominent business man here, that there were many persons in the city who had valuable information that they would be glad to place in possession of the committee, but were they to appear as witnesses before the committee their business would materially suffer, and cited the case of one Mr. Oglesby, who testified before the sub-committee and who, for that, had lost nearly all his custom, and from that fact the committee would perhaps be deprived of much information.

Mr. Marr did not consider that any one would suffer for giving truthful evidence before the committee. It would be a safety to testify here as it would be in Boston. If a witness swore to an untruth there, he would be condemned, and the same was the case here. There had been no talk about assassination, but there had been none.

Gen. Campbell thought differently. No business man could come here and testify to the truth without losing his business, as well as his standing, and he would be frowned down as a public enemy, or, in other words, be ostracized.

Judge Hoar remarked that he did not wish it understood that a party who imparted information to the committee gave it as his own experience, but that it was the general impression made upon him.

Governor Wells having left the stand, General T. C. Anderson was sworn and recited his political history. He was a member of the Returning Board, and generally affirmed the statements made by Governor Wells.

Mr. J. B. Zuntz was placed upon the stand by the Democratic counsel to rebut the testimony by Governor Wells in regard to the attempted assassination at the City Hotel. Mr. Zuntz stated, in substance, that the night of the 29th of the day named, he saw two drunken men, and fearing something might occur from the men being drunk, he advised Dr. Scruggs to take Mr. Wells out, which was done. He met Mr. Wells as he a fact, but was so told by Mr. Watson, the hotel proprietor.

Upon the subject of intimidation, E. L. Pierson, of Natchitoches, was sworn and testified as to intimidation, murders, etc., in his parish, during which he recounted an attempt upon his life, first stating that he had lived in Natchitoches since his boyhood and that formerly his politics were Democratic, but prior to the last election he was a Republican. For his change of political sentiments he was ostracised, and by a resolution adopted at a public meeting. He came here, was appointed by Kellogg Judge of the parish and returned and was met within a few miles of his home and told not to go home. He did go, and a number of his friends there told him not to attempt to discharge the functions of his office. His life was in danger because of his being a Republican. On going to his office next day, he learned that his life would be attempted, and received a note from his wife asking him to come home. This his wife came to meet him. His sister told him two armed men were lurking about the place, as she guessed, to take his life; that a forty armed men were in town and that they came there to kill him, and that he should not sit as Judge. Soon after that the Committee of Seventy held a meeting, and sent a committee to his house to demand of him that he sign a written agreement not to take part in the coming campaign, which he declined doing; whereupon one of the committee pulled out his watch and told him that he had half an hour in which to sign the paper. He refused, telling them if they meant to assassinate him to do it at his office or on the street, and to spare his family from witnessing the murder. During the campaign he was insulted time and again. When he went to make a speech, men congregated with bowie knives in sight, but on the approach of a company of cavalry they secreted their arms. There was no fair registration in the parish. Republicans were prevented from taking an active part in the campaign. A mass-meeting was held, and from that a committee was sent to call for the resignations of the parish officers, and threats were made to hang one of them.

He then recounted an attempt made to take his life on the night the votes were being counted, but was fired at three times and retreated to the Court House. He reached his home and was kept there a week, fearing to leave, lest his life be taken. He finally escaped, but learned that two Texas desperadoes had been employed to take his life, and that their employer was none other than his own law partner, Wm. Levy. Levy's description of the negro man was shot because he had snapped a cap at a white man. I don't say this was for political purposes. I think there were White Leaguers in the parish. Men were armed, and the colored men were afraid to go about at night. The majority of Republicans in my parish ought to have been 1,800, and at the election it was only twenty-six. The parish is not safe now for Republicans. I am told that I would be hung if I returned. I had a difficulty with Colonel Levy, but will not state the circumstances. As far as I know, the murders committed in the parish were not for political purposes. At one poll in Natchitoches, colored men were not allowed to vote, and about 300 did not register. The bad feeling among the people has only existed since last July. Before this the people was very quiet. This disturbance is probably due to a desire for office among the people. Another cause for the ill-feeling is the great debt which burdens the parish, contracted partly by Democrats and Republicans. The tax rate is about eight per cent. The land is assessed at ten dollars per acre. The people have the greatest respect for the Kellogg Government. The Fusion ticket carried the parish in 1872. There was no intimidation then.

Mr. Hoar—You state that the colored vote in 1872 was smaller than in 1874, and yet there was intimidation in 1874 and none in 1872. How do you account for this?

Mr. Pierson—I decline to answer that question.

Mr. Hoar—You were Supervisor in 1872, and don't wish to criminate yourself?

Witness—Nearly all the white men who came from the country put on badges and acted as policemen, and thus prevented 500 colored men from voting. I changed my politics on the 4th of July, 1874, because I thought that the Democrats was a Republican parish. There are some Democratic colored men in the parish, but they are confined to the town of Natchitoches. The white Republicans are rapidly decreasing. Since last July about six colored men have been killed, some by white men and others by colored men, but I do not know that it was for political purposes. I might think that the ill-feeling and discontent among the people might be due to the opinion that the Kellogg government was an usurpation, but for the vindictive manner in which I am persecuted, and I defy any man to prove any charges against my personal character. There is a great deal of stealing—petty larceny—in the parish, and the colored people form a majority of the thieves. The McEnery appointees are now holding their offices in the parish.

Lieutenant William Garlach, Third United States Infantry, stationed at Shreveport, then took the stand and testified as to violence, intimidation, etc., at Shreveport, stating that quite a number of men there (Republicans) had told him that it was upsafe for them to speak their minds that it would be dangerous for a man to announce public

VIOLENT DEATHS

A Fatal Fall—A Tramp Killed by a Railroad Train

Mr. Michael Neville, a juror in the Common Pleas Court No. 2, while walking down Wylie avenue yesterday morning about ten o'clock, slipped and fell on the sidewalk near Green street. The head struck during the same passage. When assistance came it was found that the unfortunate man's skull was fractured. He was conveyed to his residence on Wylie avenue, near Devilliers street, where he died about noon. Deceased was an ex polisher by occupation, and leaves a wife and large family of children in indigent circumstances. The Coroner received no notice to hold an inquest, and up to last evening none had been held.

The dead body of an old man was brought to the Coroner's office yesterday afternoon, in an express wagon, and by the direction of Coroner McCallin it was taken to his stables on Fifth avenue. The person who had charge of the body stated that the man had been struck by a train on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, near Glendale. An inquest was held last evening. Wm. Murphy testified that he was engineer on the express train No. 6, and engine No. 329; that yesterday at 11:47 A. M., while coming toward the city, and when a short distance west of Glendale station, he saw a man walking on the track, about four hundred feet in advance of his engine; the man was also coming toward the city; there was a freight train, bound westward, approaching at the same time; witness whistled the alarm and applied the air brakes as quickly as possible; the man did not heed the alarm until the train was within fifteen feet of him, when he looked over his shoulder and made a movement as if to step over on the other track; just at that moment the freight train passed; could not say if it was his or the freight train that struck the man.

Scott Edgar, fireman on the express, testified that it was Murphy's engine that struck the man; it struck him on the left side; witness got off and went back, but by the time he got to where the body was lying, it had been placed in the baggage car; the man was then dead.

The jury found a verdict of accidental death.

From papers found in his pockets, it appeared that the name of the deceased was Henry Hartman. There were a number of printed slips in English and German, showing that the man was a beggar. He had lost a leg, and one of the papers set forth that he had lost it by an accident on the Peoria Railroad. There were also receipts from the American Express Company, for packages forwarded to John Hartman, at Gilman, Iroquois county, Ill., and at Piper City, Ford county, Ill. Deceased appeared to be about fifty years of age.

Attempted Wife Murder.

The St. Louis *Democrat*, of Monday, says: William Page Fox last evening sought an interview with his wife, Lottie Wallace, who, after being married six years, had abandoned him for a year past, and taking up her residence with the family of Mr. Joseph Haines, at No. 501 Summit avenue.

Mr. Fox went into the kitchen at 6:15 last evening, where he found his wife. He wanted to have a private conversation with her. She refused to go to her room with him, telling him what he had to say to her must be said in public.

He then drew a revolver, threatening to shoot her, at the same time placing the weapon within a few inches of her head and firing. The ball struck her in the forehead, over the left eye, coursing around the exterior of the skull, and made its exit at the back of the head, making a severe flesh wound, as well as concussive injuries.

Mrs. Haines seized Fox as soon as she shot his wife and tried to hold him. He fired two shots at her, both going through her clothing, but fortunately doing her no bodily harm. He also tore her clothes nearly off of her. Mr. John Wagner then came to the assistance of the women folks, and received one shot from Fox, it going through his coat sleeve under the left arm, but doing no other injury. Policeman Walsh, of the Mounted District, came in and arrested Fox.

Mr. Fox is about twenty-seven years of age, a railroad employee, and quite dissipated. He is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa. His wife is twenty-one years old, and daughter of J. H. Wallace, of Allegheny City, Pa. She was seeking a divorce from her husband upon allegations of irregularities.

Pardons and Executions in Eighty-three Years.

The Governors of Pennsylvania, since 1791, have granted 12,005 pardons. Of these, Governor Mifflin, in nine years, granted 1,188; McKean, nine years, 1,909; Snyder, nine years, 1,555; Findlay, three years, 1,304; Heister, three years, 787; Shultz, six years, 821; Wolf, six years, 502; Ritner, three years, 481; Porter, six years, 725; Shunk, four years, 327; Johnston, three years, 378; Bigler, three years, 526; Pollock, three years, 161; Packer, three years, 216; Curtin, six years, 763; Geary, six years, 425; Hartranft, two years, 137.

The number of the death warrants issued in the State, since 1791, is 168—or an average of two each year. Up to 1838, there had been but 57 death warrants signed. The highest number signed by any one Governor was 23, by Geary. Curtin signed 18; Packer, 12; Pollock, 8; Bigler, 11; Johnston, 6; Shunk, 11; and Porter, 6. Governor Hartranft singed one in 1873 and seven in 1874, as follows:

Lewis Rosentine and John Moody, hung at Harrisburg, July 9, for the murder of Abraham Behm.

William E. Udderzook, hung at West Chester, November 12, for the murder of W. S. Goss.

Daniel O'Mara and Patrick Irvin, hung at Montrose, November 12, for the murder of Mary O'Mara.

Samuel Beighley, hung at Greensburg, January 20, 1875, for the murder of Joseph Kerr.

Frederick Heidenblut, hung at Philadelphia, January 29, 1875, for the murder of Godfrey Kuhnle.

Stamp Your Bank Checks.

The Bank Supervisors having recently received instructions from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to cause an examination to be made of the various banks and banking houses in the country, in order to ascertain if the law regulating the duty on checks, orders for money and sight drafts on banks, bankers and trust companies, is being complied with, inspectors have within the past few days been making the rounds of the banks of this city. While in **some cases** these observers have noticed on the part of bankers in respect of a strict compliance with the two-cent stamp act, the inspectors found that our banks and their depositors generally were observing the law almost to the letter.

The amendment of the law recently passed, provides that *any* "bank check, draft, order or *voucher* for the payment of any sum whatever, drawn upon any bank, banker or trust company," shall be liable to two cent duty. This will dispose of all the expedients now adopted to avoid payment of this duty.

Persons drawing, receiving or paying checks, should bear in mind that each and all are liable to a penalty of fifty dollars for omitting to stamp such papers, and the same if they neglect to cancel the stamps by writing the initials of the name of the person making the check, and the *date* of the cancellation. This cannot be done by using a ribbon stamp, but may be done by puncturing the stamp or driving a portion of it into the paper with a cutting stamp. Postal stamps are not available for the payment of this duty.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician of the Board of Health, makes the following mortuary report for the week ending January 29, 1875. There were 71 deaths, 69 white and 2 colored. Of these, 25 were married, 43 single, 1 widow and 2 widowers. The nativity was: Pittsburgh and other parts of the United States, 13; England, 1; France, 1; Germany, 8; Ireland, 14. The ages were: Under 1 year, 12; from 1 to 2 years, 13; from 2 to 5 years, 8; from 5 to 10 years, 4; from 15 to 20 years, 3; from 20 to 50 years, 5; from 30 to 40 years, 7; from 40 to 50 years, 8; from 50 to 60 years, 7; from 60 to 70 years, 2; from 70 to 80 years, 8; from 80 to 90 years, 1. The causes of death were: Alcoholism, 1; accident, burn, 2; accident, railroad, 3; bronchitis, capillary, 3; cerebritis, 1; cerebro-spinal fever, 1; consumption, 9; convulsions, 1; croup, 1; diphtheritis, 1; dentition, morbid, 1; dysentery, acute, 1; erysipelas, 1; embolism, 1; fever, typhoid, 1; fever, scarlet, 2; fracture base of skull, 1; gastro enteritis, 1; heart, fatty, 1; hemiplegia, 1; imperforate rectum, 1; liver, congestion of, 1; lungs, congestion of, 2; meningitis, 5; old age, 3; pneumonia, 11; pneumonitis, 14; pericarditis, 1; peritonitis, 1; puerperal convulsions, 1; smallpox, 1; syphilis, congenital, 1; tonsilitis, 1; tetanus, traumatic, 1, unknown, 2; whooping-cough, 2.

Cases of infectious diseases reported during the week: Scarlet fever, 12; typhoid fever, 6; cerebro-spinal fever, 1; diphtheria, 2; small-pox and varioloid, 2; total, 23.

New Narrow Gauge Railroad.

The people of Chartiers and Ten Mile Valleys are now at work in the matter of building a narrow gauge railroad from Washington, Pennsylvania, south, to Sparta, a distance of sixteen miles. This road will run up Chartiers creek to its head waters, cross over the summit at Bethel Church, and down Ten Mile creek, by way of Prosperity and Sparta, to the Wheeling Divide, or summit, between Washington and Green counties, with the best prospects of being built to Winona, a distance of seven miles farther, at the same time. The country through which this road will pass is one of the richest in the State, and no doubt the road, when built, will be one of the most successful narrow gauge roads in the State.

Allegheny Mortuary Report.

Health officer Hoch of Allegheny reports the following for the past week.

Typhoid fever carried off 5; capillary bronchitis, 3; scarlet fever, 2; convulsions, pneumonia, 2; still born, 3, and the following one each: Cerebro spinal meningitis, meningitis, unknown (2), scarlatina, asthma consumption, phthisis-pulmonary, gastritis, dysentary, suicide, hydrocephalus, premature birth, hydropericardium, freezing, congestion of brain, whooping cough, marasmus, angina pectoris, softening of the brain, pleuro-pneumonitis and inflamation of bowels. Total, forty-one; whites, thirty-eight; colored, three; males, twenty-four; females, seventeen.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 27, 1875.

As soon as you get twenty miles into the country you find the manner of doing business changing from that in vogue in town.

The customers of the country banks are, in great part, farmers and business men, who honestly intend to pay their debts, but care no more for a protest than a bull does for a dea bite. Strictly commercial paper, as an evidence of debt, is not generally in use, but the necessities of the surrounding circumstances have given rise to certain forms of evidences of debt that are anomalous and peculiar in form. At first judgment notes, so called, were taken, but it was found that they were so easily defended, being subject to all equities between the original parties, that they became in a measure disused as too cumbersome. Some ingenious banker therefore hit upon the expedient of taking a promissory note, with a power of attorney to confess judgment and waiver of exemption and homestead laws attached, the whole being without a seal.

This judgment could be entered at any time and the indorsers were held the same as on ordinary commercial paper. A case of much interest has lately been decided by the Court of Appeals of Kentucky, involving the validity of such exemptions.

The suit in question was brought on a note for $535, given for value, and "without any relief whatever from the appraisement exemption or valuation laws of the State of Kentucky." Upon this note the holder obtained a judgment and had execution issued. The case went to trial on the merits of the question whether a debtor can, by the execution of a note containing such stipulations as in this case, waive the benefit of the law exempting certain property from execution. In considering this question, the Court said that it was well settled that a debtor could sell his personal property exempt from execution, either in payment of his debts or for any other valuable consideration, so as to vest in the purchaser the absolute title, or even to mortgage it, to secure the payment of a debt. There is, however, an essential difference between an *executed* contract by which the owner is divested of title, and an *executory* agreement by which the debtor merely promises that in future he will not take advantage of or claim the benefit of a particular statute. The Court argues that the Legislature intended, by the enactments of such laws, to provide more for the dependent family of the debtor than for the debtor himself. The Legislature has said that certain property shall not be liable for debt, not so much to relieve the debtor as to protect his family against such improvident acts as reduce the family to want.

The contract to waive the benefit of the exemption law annuls the law itself, so far as it affects the debt sought to be recovered. If such a contract were upheld the exemption law of the State would be a blank upon the statute book and deprive the destitute of all claim they have to its beneficent provisions.

The Court therefore decided that the waiver was void, and reversed the judgment.

As it is the constant practice of banks in the country to take notes with the waiver of exemption attached, it work, a revolution in the method of their business if the doctrine thus announced should become the doctrine of this State.

—The trustee of the estate of Jay Cooke & Co., has commenced paying a five per cent. cash dividend. The whole amount of money which will be paid out as five per cent. dividend on the audited claims against the estate will be about $400,000. Fully $300,000 more is in the hands of Mr. Lewis, the trustee, but he is not justified in disbursing it until certain suits against the estate are settled. Besides the cash dividend in which all claimants participate, the option is given to such as desire to take a portion of the remainder of their claims in the bonds which make up the greater part of the assets. These bonds stand at from 15 to 20 cents; in Northern Pacific bonds, at seventy cents on the dollar; fourteen per cent. in Oregon Steam Navigation, at $40 per share, and six per cent. in Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company's six per cent. income bonds at forty per cent. Sixty days from January 30 are allowed them to accept or decline this distribution in kind or any part of it. This programme will please all the large creditors, who believed they could realize more from their claims by holding on to some of their proportionate share of the securities than if these securities were converted into cash by the trustee. If the latter course were taken, it was feared that only a small sum would realize their due to the smaller proportion parties entitled. It must not be supposed that the Northern Pacific bonds are marketable at any figures approximating 70 cents, as named in the proposition to the creditors. A month ago they were quoted at 50 and could not be sold, but the prospects for a distribution of a large quantity of them to the creditors has decreased the market value to day 23 per cent. the highest offer. They had fallen to 20, or even below. It is confidently asserted, however, by persons familiar with the management of the estate that the trustee will be made to realize the full amount of 70 per cent. if invested in land. The following are the figures in support of this assertion: For $700 of claims against the estate a $1,000 bond is given, on which the accumulated interest is 42%. The railroad company take these bonds in payment for lands at 10 per cent. premium, or $1,100, making, with interest, $1,246. Excellent land can be had in the vicinity of the company fluctuates upon the line of its road for $5 an acre. This allows 241 acres for the bond, or 170 acres for the $700 of claims against Jay Cooke & Co., which it discharged. This land can be sold for a few years, when it is claimed, is worth in cash the full value of $5 an acre now nominally placed upon it, whereas the small amount of cash to be paid by those who converts his claim into it is less than $5 an acre.

Perhaps this is altogether too sanguine a view of the value of Northern Pacific lands. There is a class of creditors who will take none of the bonds in kind, believing that after a large share of the claims shall have been satisfied by the acceptance of these assets there will remain for them a handsome sum in cash when the closing distribution is made. Besides the Northern Pacific bonds, in other kinds of securities are offered the bonds of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company, a solvent concern and a profitable business on the Pacific coast, and the income bonds of the Lake Superior and Mississippi road, a defaulting landgrant concern in Minnesota. The former are valuable securities now, but the latter will probably be more valuable in the course of time, and their ultimate value is a matter of conjecture.

The trustee does not fix any date for the winding up of the estate. He could do so if it were not for the suits pending against it, which may run for years in the courts. The amount of the cash dividend which the creditors may ultimately expect cannot be estimated, owing to these suits. They tie up a large amount of property belonging to individual members of the Jay Cooke firm. If they are decided in favor of the estate, the creditors will get this property, but if against the estate their claims will be reduced in value below all previous estimates. There are five suits, two of which are now pending in the Supreme Court at Washington. Half a million is involved in one suit. The trustee probably has a labor of years, and the claims may descend to the heirs of many of the present holders as legacies as the latter get in value. So it is like an unknown lottery, or the historic French spoliation claims.

OFFICE OF TRASK & STONE,
BANKERS & BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, January 28, 1875.

There is no new feature in our market worth recording, and matters are pretty much in *statu quo*. There have been a few fluctuations in prices and, in some instances, there have been some recoveries in quotations. Lake Shore advanced to 74¾ this afternoon, against 73¾ on the first call, on expectation of a renewal of the injunction against the company paying the dividend. Western Union sold at 72¾ early in the day and declined to 71⅞ at the last call, ruling to 72¾ at the close. Ohio and Mississippi has been heavy all day, and the severe competition in freight and passenger tariffs on the roads in the West exerts a depressing influence on this stock. Pacific Mail is comparatively neglected, but its earnings are large.

There has been some activity in the fancy stocks to-day, and it is said that Mariposa Land and Mining Stock is about to be placed on the San Francisco Stock Exchange, where mining securities are now so much in vogue. Money remains in abundance and supply at three per cent. on call.

Yours truly,
TRASK & STONE.

—The following tables show the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

January 27, 1875.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	113	113	113	112¾	....	....
Money	....	....	....	....	....	5%
5-20's, reg. coup.	....	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1862	115½	115½	115½	....	....	....
5-20's, 1864	....	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865, reg.	118½	....	118½	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865, new	118½	....	118½	....	....	....
Registered '67	119½	....	119½	....	....	....
5-20's, 1867	119½	....	119½	....	....	....
10-40's, coupon	116½	....	116½	....	....	....
Currency 6's	119½	....	119½	....	....	....
New 5 per cents	111½	....	111½	....	....	....
Pacific of Union Tel.	74¾	74¾	74	74¼	74¼	74¼
Quicksilver	33	....	32½	....	....	....
Quicksilver, pref.	80½	....	80½	81	81	81
Panama	111	....	111	....	....	....
Adams Express	....	....	....	98	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	....	....	....	82	....	....
American Express	....	....	....	50½	....	....
United States Express	....	....	....	89½	....	....
New York Central	73	73½	73¼	....	....	....
Erie	28	28¼	28⅛	28⅛	28⅛	....
Michigan Central	....	78½	....	....	....	....
Lake Shore	74¼	74¼	74	74¼	74¼	74¼
Illinois Central	....	97¾	....	....	....	....
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	....	87½	....	87½	87½	87½
Chicago & Northw'n	44¾	44¾	44½	45	44¾	44¾
Do. preferred	....	69	....	....	....	....
Rock Island	....	....	103½	....	....	103½
St. Paul, common	27½	27¾	27½	....	....	27½
Do. preferred	....	....	....	....	....	58½
Wabash, common	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾
Fort Wayne	....	....	....	....	....	....
Ohio & Mississippi	27¾	27¾	27½	27½	27½	27½
Terre Haute	....	....	....	....	....	....
Harlem	127½	....	....	128	....	....
Hannibal & St. Jos.	20¾	21	21	21	21	21
C. C. & I. C.	....	....	....	....	....	8¾
Pittsburgh	....	....	....	....	....	....
Do. new	....	....	....	....	....	....
South Carolina, April	34	....	....	....	....	....
Do. July	34	....	....	....	....	....
Missouri 6's	91	....	....	....	....	....

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	55⅝	....
Pennsylvania Central scrip	106½	....
Reading, sales	15	....
United Companies of N. Jersey	130½	130¾
Oil Creek, sales	15	....
Lehigh Valley, sales	62	....
Allegheny Valley	30	90
Central Transportation, sales	49½	....
P. C. & St. Louis m. b., sales	82	....

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, January 27.—Cotton firmer but unchanged. Flour and rye unchanged. Wheat firmer at $1 06¾. Corn steady at 43¾@44c. Oats inactive; No. 2, 34½@35c. Barley dull at $1 30@1 37½. Whisky steady at 86c. Pork dull; held in $17. Dry salt meats and bacon dull and unchanged. Lard lower at 13½c.

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
WEDNESDAY, January 27, 1875.

The condition of trade does not show much change, as business in most departments is slow, and the volume of transactions is quite limited. Some merchants have made a material change for the better, but it must be borne in mind that a large share of Pittsburgh's trade depends on the home demand, and while the present depressed condition of our home industries continues, that demand must of necessity continue to be quite light. Until there is a revival of the manufacturing industries, our wholesale merchants and commission dealers must to a greater or less extent experience the dullness consequent thereon.

Prices are generally unchanged, and there are few new features of marked interest to report. In grain there has been a little change for the better, but the market is still rather inactive at former prices. Country produce, groceries and general merchandise are quiet and unchanged. Provisions are more nearly at an average state of activity than any other class of trade, although prices are comparatively quite high.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,165	Corn, sks	3,149
Wheat, sks	1,111	Barley, sks	180
Rye, sks	250	Oats, sks	1,014
Butter, pkgs	60	Bacon, tcs	180
Hay, bales	500		

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	6,058	6,997	13,055
Apples, bbls	141	160	301
Cheese, lbs	104	100	204
Corn, sacks	3,240	10,189	13,429
Wheat, sacks	628	4,883	5,511
Barley, sacks	2,840	645	3,485
Rye, sacks	452	423	875
Oats, sacks	3,156	5,756	8,765
Butter, pkgs	245	353	598
Bacon, pcs	8,052	7,356	15,408
Bacon, tcs	370	373	743
Potatoes, bush	1,525	3,570	4,135
Hay, bales	2,003	3,508	5,568

The following quotations are prices realizing in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless otherwise stated, are for cars of eleven sacks.

GRAIN, FLOUR AND FEED.

GRAIN.—There is an improvement in the receipts which are 53,256 bushels for the past week, against 26,997 bushels for the preceding week. The demand is light, but has improved somewhat during the past few days. Transactions are principally for corn, in which a moderate trade is done.

Wheat.—The market continues rather dull as millers do not find an active trade for the product. Prices are generally unchanged, but red winter wheat is a trifle easier. The receipts of wheat are 12,23 bushels for the past week. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 37½@1 38 bushel; extra Michigan white at $1 36@1 37; Ohio and Illinois do at 2@$1 25; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat at $1 16@1 20.

Corn—Receipts for the week past were comparatively liberal, being 29,472 bushels. Shelled corn is in tolerable good supply, and prices have eased down somewhat. We quote high mixed at 77@78c per bushel; mixed 75@76c. Ear corn is also arriving freely, but does not as yet seem to be in excess of the demand, and quotations are steady at 72@73c. Large consumers appear to consider corn relatively cheaper than oats as feed, which explains the preponderance that this grain is assuming in the market at present.

Oats—There is a slightly improved feeling in the market for oats at the opening of the week, but not sufficient to create any movement of note in the trade. Receipts are somewhat increased, but are still much below the average, being 12,890 bushels for the past week. The demand continues quite light, owing to the fact alluded to above, and prices, while steadily held, do not advance any. We quote prime white at 67½@68c; mixed at 65@66c; yellow at 62@63c.

Rye—The inquiry for rye seems to be strong, and as the stock is light, prices show an upward tendency. The market is quotable at $1 10@1 15 per bushel. Receipts for the past week are 1,669 bushels.

Barley—As the trade of brewers is very unsatisfactory there is little demand for barley and quotations would be entirely nominal, as not enough has been done to establish a price. Receipts are also nominal being only 1,612 bushels for the past week.

FLOUR—The market is unchanged, trade being slow and unsatisfactory, and prices unchanged. Receipts for the week were 6997 barrels. The following are the wholesale prices of the local millers: XX, $4 25@4 50; fancy spring, $5 25@5 50; No. 1 amber wheat do $6 50@7 00; red wheat flour $6 10; in sacks 30c off per bbl. The jobbing prices are as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour, $6 00@6 25; Wisconsin $5 75; Minnesota $5 75@6 00; red winter wheat, $5 75@6 00; rye flour $ 75; Graham flour $5 75; self-raising flour in 5 lb packages, $1 60; in 2 lb packages, cornmeal, old at $2 75; new $2 50; oatmeal $7 75@8 00.

HAY—The receipts are 3,508 bales the past week, against 2,003 the preceding week. We quote prime timothy, on track, at $22 00@22 00 per ton. No 2 do $20 00@21 00; inferior $15 00@18 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $24 00@25 00. Loose hay is selling at $18 00@20 00 for No. 1; $25 00@26 00 for No. 2. Mixed is quoted at $15 00@16 00 per ton.

MILL FEED—Bran is in fair demand at $1 10@1 15 per cwt; shorts $1 20@1 30 per cwt; middlings $1 45@1 55 per cwt; chopped feed $1 55@1 65 per cwt; oilmeal $1 90@2 00 per cwt.

GROCERIES.

The grocery trade continues slow, the customers to whom our wholesale merchants cater to well adhering to the strictly economical policy. Prices generally are unchanged as follows:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb	*Spices.*	
Fancy	21½c	Cloves, ₱ lb	55 c
Choice	20½@21c	Allspice, ₱ lb	17½@18c
Prime	20 c	Cassia, ₱ lb	40 @45
Good	19 c	Nutmegs, ₱ lb	85@1 40
Ordinary	18 c	Pepper, ₱ lb	22 c
Roasted Coffees.		*Molasses, ₱ gal.*	
Rio, in packages	28 c	Strictly choice N O	75c
Rio, in bulk	27½c	Prime	70c
Java	40 c	Good	65c
Sugars.		*Syrups.*	
Standard A	10½c	Ex. white drips	75c
Standard B	10½c	Sugar drips	65c
Standard extra C	10½c	Sugar syrup	55@60c
Standard hards	11½c	*Raisins.*	
Crushed	11½c	Layers, ₱ box	$3 40
American extra C	9½c	Valentias, ₱ lb	12 c
New Orleans	8½@9½c	Currants	7½c
Teas.		*Starch.*	
Young Hyson	50c@$1 00	Common	4½c
Gunpowder	50c@$1 00	Common to fine	5@6½c
Imperial	50c@$1 00	Silver gloss	9½c
Japan	50c@$1 00	Corn	10½c
Oolong	25c@ 80	*Soda.*	
Fancy	1 00	Bi-carb, ₱ 10 lb kgs	6c
Souchong	25c@ 80	Bi-carb, ₱ 5 papers	5c
Rice.			
Choice Carolina	8½c	Star, full weight	18c
Patna	7½@8c	Stearine	15c
Rangoon	7½c		

Oil—New York markets we learn from the *Bulletin* that the market for fair crude has existed throughout the week, and in the various quotations of 73@81½c gold, a fair business has been transacted. The price of July option during the 25th instant were 82.50@ 83c, about a quarter of which were sold during the week ending the 27th. Considerable interest is evinced by several arrivals, including that of the "South America," and a large assortment has thus been afforded buyers, who owing to this fact and the prospects of the early being restored, have purchased to large quantities than last week, while in regard to the jobbing trade, it has been quite the reverse of activity. Mild grades have been generally quiet, owing to scarcity, though there has been a moderate business in the New Orleans coffee. Prices have ruled firm for all kinds. The receipts continue small, and in most cases, especially as regards Rio, have been previously sold. In regard to crop prospects in Louisiana we learn from the most intelligent estimate of the Ceylon crop is 50,000 tons, or 20,000 tons in excess of last season. During the year the quantity of tea to be offered at auction in Holland is fixed at 750,000 bags, or an average of only 62,500 bags per month, if the trading is uniform. The attack in order to influence the future of the market. British Honduras and Mexico average crop. Costa Rica, Guatamela and Venezuela have large crops in prospect, it is stated, Costa Rica promising 500,000 pounds, against 160,000 pounds last year; the St. Domingo crop, it is said, will reach 120,000 bags. The demand to export, between January 1 and June 30, this year, nearly or fully 1,500,000 bags, the largest ever known in the country, is stated by the Santos crop is put at 1,000,000 bags, but considerable of this goes to the Northern Continental ports.

Sugar has been generally quiet, but steady, all refiners being firm. Refiners, however, have most of the time absented themselves from the market, but latterly there has been some change in this respect and more business has resulted, the transactions being to a considerable extent in centrifugal, principally in Cuba Muscovado and East India discriptions. Refined has sold fairly at 10½@10¾c for hard grades and 9⅞@10¼c for the better descriptions of soft whitie the refiners still pursue the policy of limiting production to the demand and the endeavor to remedy the disadvantage of unremunerative prices still occupies the attention of that portion of the trade.

"Of New Orleans molasses the sales have been small, and the supply has in consequence been increased by the arrivals. Prices for the medium grades have been weak, and 64c has been the figure for a sticky grade of fair to good. It is also a fact in opposition to this that the choice grades, by reason of scarcity here and in New Orleans, have ruled very firm in prices and as high as 68c at one time quoted, though in generality 67c must be accepted as the highest figure the market will bear. Moderate jobbing sales of foreign have been made at 45@55c for Porto Rico; 60@64c for Demerara, with occasional less and Barbadoes at 45c. Considerable purchases of the new crop are reported to have already been made for this early market, but it is stated that the early arrivals in prospect are not large, and that the main Atlantic cargoes are not expected for some little time.

"In rice a fair jobbing business has been done at generally unchanged prices, the market being firm."

FISH—There is a fair demand at prices generally unchanged. We quote as follows:

No. 1 extra mess	Large do, ₱ 100	$6 00
mackeral ₱ bbl	25 00	Boneless codfish	8
No. 1 mess	22 00	₱ lb	
Extra No. 1 shore	20 00	White fish, ₱ half bbl	
Extra No. 1 bay	16 00	₱ lb	6 50
No. 1 bay	14 00	Lake herring, ₱	
Extra No. 2	14 00	½ bbl	4 35
No. 2 bay	12 00	Labrador herring,	
New No. 3	11 00	₱ bbl	8 75@9 00
Scarce whitefish,		Round do	6 75@7 00
medium, ₱ 100	6 00		

TOBACCO—The market is quiet and unchanged. Quotations are as follows:

Fine cut	57@60c	Ready	65@85c
Black Navy	52@55c	Fine Cut Plugs	70@80c
Black Tens	34@35c	Fine Cut	55@60c
Black Quarters	34@35c	Medium Cut	45@50c
Louisville Navy	60@65c	Scotch Snuff	65@75c
Louisville Cav	70@75c	Black Rappee	60@70c
Virginia Navy	55@60c	Six Twist	@40c
Virginia Tens	55@60c	Cigars—	
Virginia Fancy	60@65c	Common Indian	$13@20
Double Thick	60@62c	Connecticut	25@30
Flounders	60@62c	Seed & Havana	30@45
Bright Fromds	57@60c	Half Havana	60@150

CARBON OIL—The market is steady. We quote 11½@12¼c from store; sales of round lots on the cars are made at a reduction from these figures.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

APPLES—There is a little improvement in the demand, but prices are unchanged. Receipts for the past two weeks are 301 barrels. Transactions are almost entirely in a jobbing way. Extra choice apples are quoted at $2 25@2 50; $1 75@2 00 for choice; $1 00@1 20 for common to medium.

APPLE BUTTER—Is in fair supply and prices are easy. We quote at 5@6c ₱ gallon, in kegs, for prime; 5c for common.

BEANS—The demand is light and supply liberal. We quote white navy at $2 00@2 10; medium $1 80@1 90; fair to good $1 50@1 70.

BUTTER—Under the influence of a rather lighter stock prices are more generally accepted by purchasers. Receipts for two weeks are 245 pkgs. We quote 27@28c ₱ lb for choice; 25c for medium; 22@23c for common.

BEESWAX—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 31@33c ₱ lb, in round lotsgsales in a jobbing way are made at 34@35c ₱ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Buckwheat flour is rather easy, and in large supply at $5 50@5 75 ₱ cwt; $7 00 ₱ bbl; self-raising buckwheat flour is quoted, in 6 lb packages, at $4 20 ₱ doz packages.

CHEESE—A better feeling is reported from the eastern markets for cheese, and while there is no particular improvement in the demand, a firmer tone is noticeable on the part of holders. We quote at 16½@17c ₱ lb for Ohio factory; New York Goshen 17½@18c; Sweitzer 14@15c ₱ lb.

EGGS—The market is comparatively steady. We quote at 30@32c ₱ dozen in lots; packed in fresh in barrels; 25@30c in cases; pickled 20@25c.

CRANBERRIES—We quote at $8 00@10 00 for Western; $9 00@12 00 for Eastern; $14 00 ₱ barrel for Sackett's.

GAME—We quote as follows: Venison—saddles 16@17c ₱ lb; whole deer 10@12c; prairie chickens $3 50@3 75 ₱ doz; pheasants $5 00@6 00 ₱ pair; quail $1 25@1 50 ₱ doz; wild duck $3 75@4 00; rabbits 25@30c ₱ pair; squirrels 20@25c ₱ pair; wild turkeys $1 25@1 30 each.

HOMINY—The market rules at $1 75@1 90 ₱ barrel.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₱ lb 62½c for round lots; 75@75c in a jobbing way; No. 2, ₱ lb, 50@50c, as to quality.

BIZEN MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ lb in a jobbing way.

POTATOES—Receipts have increased during the past week, being 3,652 bushels. Trade is rather dull, and is almost entirely in a jobbing way from store. We quote at 80@85c per bushel for prime peachblows from store; medium grades 70@80c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—Supply fair and market firm. Quotations as follows: 9@10c for chickens; 14@15c for turkeys.

PRESERVES AND DRIED FRUIT—We quote dried apples at 5@6c ₱ lb; dried blackberries 10c ₱ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 8@9c ₱ lb for choice; halves do 5@6c; quarters do 3@4c; prunes 5@6c ₱ gallon. Honey is active and firm at 35c ₱ lb for clover; buckwheat blossom 25c ₱ lb. Medium pickles are quoted at $6 00 ₱ bbl; $3 00 ₱ half barrel.

VEGETABLES—The market is dull, and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 12@15c ₱ gallon for prime; inferior 10@12c.

PROVISIONS.

There is a moderate trade in hog products, at quotably unchanged prices, although the lower tone of the markets West has its effect in causing the tone of packers here. Receipts for the past two weeks were 745 tierces and 15,498 packages, equal to 194,784 pounds.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 9½c ₱ lb; rib sides are quoted at 11½c; clear rib sides 12c; clear sides 12½c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar cured new at 14c ₱ lb. Sugar cured sholders at 10½c ₱ lb; breakfast bacon at 14c; dried beef hams and dried beef tongues, ₱ dozen, $7 00.

LARD—Kettle. The market is steady. We quote at $21 00 ₱ bbl.

LARD—We quote prime lard, in tierces, ₱ lb, 10½c; half bbls do 10½c; buckets do 10½c; refined in tcs 15½c; in ½ bbls 15c; in buckets 15½c; in 5 lb caddies 17½c; in 3 lb caddies do 17c; in 1 lb pails do 17½c; in 5 lb pails do 17½c; in 3 lb pails do 18c.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No. 1 winter strained at $1 07@1 08 ₱ gallon.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@9c ₱ lb for choice, and 7@7½c for common.

DRESSED HOGS—The supply is fair and prices are well sustained. We quote at 7½@7¾c ₱ lb.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALES—We quote: A $9 00 ₱ barrel; XX $10 00 ₱ barrel; India ale $11 00 ₱ barrel; Bass' English ale $12 00 ₱ barrel; Scotch ale $12 00@13 00; cases of eight dozen bottles, ₱ 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Robert Gunning's Kirkaldy ale $3 00@3 50 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Burke, ₱ 75@3 00

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1875.

THE total importations at the port of New York, last week, reached a valuation of $6,079,348, against $4,795,247 for the corresponding week of last year.

A KENTUCKY Democratic editor says he would be delighted to skin PHIL. SHERIDAN alive, just for the fun of the thing. The Southern Democrats, generally, regard killing a Republican as a mere joke. It affords them pleasure to play the assassin.

THE next annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Association will be held in Philadelphia, February 11. Iron and steel makers who desire to become members of the Association are invited to be present. It is expected that the proceedings will possess more than usual interest, as numerous subjects of great importance will be considered.

AN IMPORTANT decision has just been rendered by the Superior Court of Maryland, in an action of that State against the Northern Central Railroad, to recover a tax of one-half of one per cent. on its gross receipts, as a State tax. The court declared the tax to be arbitrary and greatly exceeding the assessments on other property in the State, and decided in favor of the road. The case will, however, be appealed.

THE free trade papers complain bitterly that the "Little tariff bill" interprets the doubtful points of the revised statutes "in favor of protection." That is its most valuable feature. Thousands of workmen are idle to-day because our tariff is not sufficiently protective, and because many of our people are thus tempted to purchase abroad the goods which these men stand ready to make. Why should foreigners be encouraged to supply our markets when our own labor is idle?

A VENERABLE Vermonter, whose memory of political events goes back for more than half a century, says the recent apology of Senator GORDON to Senator EDMUNDS, in the United States Senate, "was the first apology made by a Southern Senator or member of Congress to a Northern one in fifty years." And among his own people he has already lost caste terribly for having thus lowered the flag of Southern "honor." The newspapers down there are beating the devil's tatto about it.

THE production of iron in England has fallen from 3,383,000 tons and £35,906,000 value in 1872, to 2,487,000 tons and £31,225,000 value, last year. The development of our own iron trade is doubtless, in a large degree, the cause of this marked decline. The latest British Board of Trade returns also show a continued decrease of exports, and the decline has not yet been checked. The present situation seems to be that there is rather a hopeful expectation of better times prevailing, unaccompanied, however, by any actual revival of business.

WHEN DORR got up his Rebellion in Rhode Island, President TYLER, a Southern States Rights man, thought it his duty to send in the United States troops to help put it down; a Democratic Supreme Court of the United States sustained him in so doing; and the Democratic party of the country stood by him in his action. If it was right in President TYLER to use the United States troops in settling a mere State quarrel been two State governments, both claiming to be regular, and both setting up popular vote in their favor, how does it become wrong in President GRANT to follow the example? We leave it to Democratic exports to solve the conundrum.

THE latest iron trade advices from England are of a somewhat more hopeful character than they have been. In Birmingham the prospects are reported to be comparatively bright, and on the whole very little complaint of the want of orders is heard from makers. In the North of England, the thirteenth iron producers, and especially railmakers, state that they cannot in most cases do a remunerative trade at the present prices of iron and with the cost of material and wages. They admit, however, that things are beginning to tell in their favor, as pig iron is coming down in price, and coal is comparatively low. In South Wales the striking iron workers have accepted the employers' terms. But little business is being done, however, owing to the continued lock-out of the colliers.

THE Wabash and Erie Canal, which was built by the State of Indiana, and leased by it in 1850 to a company, has now surrendered, the lessees being unable to keep it up. They have spent, since 1866, the sum of $436,000 in keeping the canal in repair, and received $314,000 from all sources, being thus $122,000 out of pocket. This canal was built by the State at a great cost, to afford an outlet from the Wabash to the lakes; but the competition of the railroads has taken away business from it, altogether; and the fate of this, and similar undertakings elsewhere, may fairly be cited to show the folly of such schemes as the James River and Kanawha Canal, which the government is asked to build at a cost of sixty millions. No canal ever yet built in this country has been able to compete successfully with railroads.

IT is reported that the colliery proprietors of South Wales threaten a general lockout unless all their employees resume work within a week. If this resolution is adhered to, over a hundred thousand persons will be thrown out of employment—a deplorable prospect to contemplate, particularly in mid-winter. Nevertheless it cannot be denied that in the present condition of the labor market, these striking movements are the height of folly. Between the summer of 1873 and the close of last year, colliers' wages in England were increased from fifty to sixty per cent., whilst the subsequent reductions have only aggregated twenty-five per cent. The price of coal has within the same period fallen over thirty per cent. The wages question cannot be regulated independently of the state of trade, though all the trades' unions in the world should attempt it.

IN THE Louisiana debate, Senator LOGAN quoted from the Atlanta (Georgia) *News*, a piece of advice to the White Leaguers to rise upon the United States troops and crush them, and referred to it as a Democratic sheet. Senator GORDON, of Georgia, denied that it was a Democratic paper, and said that it did not reflect the opinions of the people of Georgia; whereupon the *News* thus responds to the cheeky GORDON, and so puts him in the vocative case:

"As we have never voted for any others than Democrats from the day we were entitled to a vote to the present hour, it does strike us as rather rough to have it proclaimed that we are not a Democrat. Certainly, while we were laboring personally and with our pen to secure Senator Gordon's election to the United States Senate, the honorable gentleman did not hold that we 'did' not belong to the Democratic party. That he must have thought our services of value is unquestionable, for he was most profuse in his expressions of thanks after the election, and even asked us if he could serve us in return. At that time we were a good enough Democrat for Senator Gordon, and as we are the same now that we were then, the Senator must be the one who has changed.

* * * * *

"We have been too long in journalism not to know that men in political life possess convenient memories, and that gratitude, in spite of its cheapness, is one of the rarest elements of a politician. Still, we had not supposed that Senator Gordon would seek to offer us up as a victim to propitiate Radical wrath, or that in the offering he would distort facts and indulge in assertions that he must know are without foundation."

STATISTICAL tables show that there are in the whole world about one hundred and sixty-four cities with 100,000 inhabitants; nine with over a million; twelve with from a million down to 500,000; twenty with from 300,000 to 400,000; thirty-three with from 200,000 to 300,000; and ninety with from 100,000 to 200,000. The aggregate of the population of these large cities comprises fifty millions of inhabitants, that is to say the twenty-eighth part of the entire population of the globe. The average population of a town is reckoned to be for England, 17,779 inhabitants; for France, 32,241; for Prussia, 19,685; for Sweden, 5,849. The density of population in reference to area is for Paris 529 inhabitants per hectare (about two acres and a half); for London, 103; for Berlin, 59. This density varies considerably from one district to another; it is generally the highest in the poor, or manufacturing, districts. Next to these figures come those which represent the average density in regard to dwelling places. It is in St. Petersburgh 32 inhabitants for each house; in Vienna, 49.1; in Paris, 32; in Berlin, 32; in London, 8.

"Few die, and none resign." The office of city clerk of Boston has been held by the McCreery family for over a hundred years, first when Boston was a town. When the present city clerk dies it is said that his son will take the position by common consent.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Ohio has a bill in the Legislature fixing the charges of telegraph companies.

The importation of lead into New York decreased about twenty per cent. last year.

All is as quiet on the Potomac as ice can make it. That historic stream is frozen over.

Sam Ward, monarch of that potent realm, the lobby, is a brother of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

Beecher's death from apoplexy during the present scandal trial is thought to be not at all improbable.

Bill King, the gentleman of heaven knows where, has not yet made his appearance where wanted.

Poor work, poor pay. It is proposed to fix the salaries of members of the Illinois Legislature at $200 a year.

And now Germany is suffering the industrial depression and complication consequent on a terrible war.

Schumaker ought to be of immense assistance to the Democratic party in purifying the politics of the country.

Democratic Tennessee is about to repudiate. It is stated that the interest on her bonds due in July will not be paid.

Russia is trying on a large scale the experiment of educating women for the medical profession. It should succeed.

Young Alfonso's allowance has been fixed at 28,000,000 reals, or $3,500,000, which ought to prove a real comfort to him.

A man named Mutton has a suet against a Wisconsin railroad company for being put off the cars at the wrong station.

The manufacture of agricultural implements, it is stated, is beginning to feel the incentive of an increased demand.

It is stated that Evarts is retained by Yale College for Beecher, as a testimonial to him, and that Yale is to pay him $10,000.

Telegraphy is becoming marvellously perfected. Recently, 3,020 words were sent over a single wire in ninety minutes.

There is a great revival among the publishers in England of the literature of controversy. Politics and religion divide the hour.

Anna Dickinson is about to go upon the stage, she not being content with the present talkative part she plays in the drama of life.

The school teachers in Ireland ask an increase of wages, and the fact that they venture to do this is a hopeful sign for that country.

Queen Victoria wishes her people would be more economical, and "dress as the peasants do." Then the girl of the period would die.

It is rumored that one of Schumaker's female relatives is at death's door, through the trouble which has come of the recent revelations.

The *Post* thinks there is too great a general heaviness about Gen. Hazen's recent North Pacific Railroad article in the *American Review*.

The Buffalo *Express* says there is no class of business in that city in a more prosperous condition than its manufactures. This is encouraging.

Sairey Gamp's occupation is in danger. The subject of educating nurses is being earnestly discussed in many of the large cities of the Union.

China wants to be let a loan. She asks $3,138,375, is willing to count ninety-five cents a dollar, and give eight per cent. per annum as interest.

Annanias was present for a moment at a recent Louisville seance, held in the office of the *Courier-Journal*. He embraced Watterson most affectionately.

One vessel recently took out $800,000 worth of machinery from Philadelphia to South America, and similar shipments are noticed from New England ports.

A heavy squadron of fiery steeds. The total number of locomotive steam engines in the world is 45,067, of which 14,223, or nearly one-third, are in the United States.

Our St. Petersburg Secretary of Legation, Eugene Schuyler, writes this year again the annual article on Russian literature for the London *Athenæum*. It is admirably done.

The prosperity of those Americans who gather round the pyramids and left forty centuries look at 'em is exasperating. Col. Gordon is to be raised to the dignity of Pasha.

Moulton will go down in history as the great American witness. A keener, warier, more imperturbable, more thoroughly self-possessed man never sat in front of a jury.

New York city has 304 public schools, with 3,039 teachers, and an aggregate of 251,545 pupils receiving instruction. The sanitary accommodations afforded are, however, totally inadequate.

Good. General T. T. Eckert, the new President of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company, says he intends to devote himself to the task of affording cheap telegraphic facilities to the public.

The request made by the European syndicate for an extension of time for six months from February 1st within which to subscribe for the remainder of our new five per cent. bonds, has been granted.

A correspondent inquires the age of ex-Governor Magoffin, of Kentucky. We are unable to answer. He was born when Bourbon whisky was invented, and has steadily kept pace with it ever since.

"The cup which cheers but not inebriates." There are stored in New York and other seaports 75,000,000 pounds of tea, with 10,000,000 in addition, to arrive within a few weeks, or nearly three years' supply for the entire country.

Music for the million. It has been discovered that, by the application of electric communication any number of pianos can be performed upon at once by the person who touches the keys of the central one. The idea is to be utilized.

A living death. There is a man in a Chicago hospital, a victim of a railroad accident, whose head is alive, but his entire body seems to be dead; knives have been stuck into his body, but they produce no effect upon him whatever.

From all parts of New England come reports of great drought. If rain does not soon come, the consequences may be of a serious nature, not only as regards manufacturing interests but individual necessities.

PERSONAL.

The rumor that Senator Nye is dying is pronounced incorrect. He is at his daughter's house in New York city, and is not even an invalid.

Hon. A. S. Paddock, United States Senator elect from Nebraska, is a native of New York State, and is distantly connected with the families of Gideon Welles and General W. T. Sherman. He is forty-four years of age, and has been living in Nebraska since 1856.

At the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. George Baird, of Green Village, Morris county, N. J., last week, the fact was acknowledged by the aged couple that never in their lives, during their courtship and marriage, had they kissed each other. Tranquil, no doubt; but mighty dull.

Hon. Augustus F. Allen, member of Congress elect from the Chautauqua and Cattaraugus district of New York, who died at Jamestown last week, is the third member of the Forty-fourth Congress who has died, the others being Garrett McMillan of the Ninth Georgia district, and John W. Head of the Fourth Tennessee.

Miss Snead, who, as "Miss Grundy" is familiar to most newspaper readers, is dangerously ill; she has been in poor health for two or three years. Miss Snead deserves a separate niche in the history of Washington journalism. She was the first "society writer" from Washington city, and with the exception of "Pax," in the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, and "Gleaner," of a Cincinnati paper, decidedly the best of the hundreds who have tried to imitate her.

An interesting relic of a bygone time has lately disappeared, with the death of Lord Byron's valet, Falcieri, at the age of seventy-eight. After the poet's death his friend Sir John Hobhouse, afterward Lord Broughton, took Falcieri into his employ as courier. Before long, however, the courier returned to his native country, and continued to serve as valet with Mr. Disraeli, author of "The Curiosities of Literature," and father of the present Prime Minister, until his master's death. In 1852, Lord Beaconsfield, as he then was, made messenger at the Board of Control, which he held until his decease.

The Sandy Hill, New York, *Herald* publishes the following brilliant letter from an eminent Troy practitioner:

Troy Jan 10th 1875

to Dr C farley from ——

Dear Brother of the Profession Hearin the new that you are going to Leave Sandy Hill and going Whitehall Dear sir is Sandy Hill a good Place for a Homeopathic or Electic Physician How Many Drug Stores is in Sandy Hill troy is a good Place for Practice But a Poor one for Money i have got all i Can do But nothing for it Will you Pleas Let me know if it Would Be good for me their if so send enformation on it I am a Homeopathic or Eclictic Phisician a I s a f g s f i s M D. Pleas send soon Your Brother of the Profession. ——

ADDRESS

OF THE OHIO WOOL GROWERS' CONVENTION,

Held at Columbus, January 5th, 1875.

To the President of the United States:

The wool growers of the State of Ohio, and doubtless also of the other States of the Union, have seen with surprise and regret that your Excellency, in your last annual message to Congress, has recommended such a revision of the tariff as will take off or reduce the duty on "fine wool."

They believe you would never have done this had you been fully informed on the subject.

You appear to them to have heard only one side of the question—that of the free-traders and of a portion of the manufacturers holding the same views. Doubtless, the representations made to you, whilst they may contain a certain amount of truth, were yet so made as to convey to your mind what is not true, either in fact or in the history of the legislation upon this subject. We desire that your mind should be disabused of the wrong impressions thereby made.

"FINE WOOL."

If it is intended to be affirmed, in that part of the message, that we produce none of the "fine wool" referred to, the mistake is a great one indeed. The very best "fine wool," grown anywhere in the whole world, is at this time, and has been for more than thirty years, grown in the United States. This has been repeatedly proven to be the fact. We refer you to the communications of Mark R. Cockrill, of Nashville, Tennessee, and Peter A. Browne, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, published some years ago in the Patent Office reports, to sustain us on that point. And we cite you also to the facts that Mr. Thomas Reed, of Dalton, Wayne county, Ohio, and Mr. Strain, of Washington, Pennsylvania, were each awarded the highest medals for "fine wool," exhibited by them respectively, at the World's Fair in London about 1851, being the first exposition of the kind ever held, when the finest Saxon, Silesian, German, French, Spanish, Australian and other "fine wools" were shown in competition.

WHY MORE "FINE WOOL" IS NOT GROWN.

If, however, the affirmation relates only to the sufficiency of the quantity, it may be admitted to be true, that enough of the "fine wool," referred to in the message, to supply the whole wants of the country, is not now produced in it. But, that such is the case is entirely due to the hitherto unfriendly and injurious action of tariffs on free-traders. In proof of this, we beg to remind your Excellency, that at the time of the passage of the Bingham bill, and in anticipation thereof, the warehouses of the dealers had been filled to overflowing with several years supply of fine wool, of foreign growth; and that, after the passage of that bill, the free-trade portion of the manufacturers, in order to justify their refusal to pay a compensatory price to the domestic producer, raised the cry of *over-production* at home of these very same "fine wools." Their persistency in that cry, and the depression of prices produced thereby, and by the previous importations giving color to its assertion, did not fail to affect the wool-growers, whether they believed it or not, and induced—and the language is not too strong to say were compelled—not only not to breed or increase their flocks, but absolutely in many cases to sell and slaughter in all, to destroy and slaughter them for the pelts and tallow. Otherwise to-day there would have been no complaint of deficiency. Yet to-day these same free traders have raised that other cry of *deficiency*; though not till after using up the foreign supply introduced before the Bingham bill was passed. Within the last year, indeed, the manufacturers are beginning to realize the benefit of it, and to increase their flocks.

CAPACITY TO PRODUCE "FINE WOOL."

When we consider the extent of our country, and the many and vast portions of it adapted to wool-growing, our ability to supply our own wants, and greatly more—even for exportation, if required—must be apparent to every one. The field is large—much larger than can be fully occupied—and the country is vastly more than is necessary for our immediate wants. Our flock-masters are alive to the importance of the subject. They are already engaged in the business of restocking and increasing their flocks; and with increased demand will surely come increased supply.

THE BINGHAM BILL.

Previous to the passage of the Bingham bill, the manufacturers, knowing that a readjustment of the customs duties must be made to meet the necessities for increased revenue that had arisen in consequence of the war of the rebellion, invited the wool-growers to co-operate with them in the representations to be made to Congress. It was argued that the conflicting interests of the two classes could be better reconciled and accommodated, and the common interest of both and of the whole country could be more effectually promoted by united action than if each should separately urge its claims. We met this liberal and unselfish spirit, the wool-growers assented. Conference committees were appointed; joint meetings were had; the arrangement was fully matured, and was set in operation by sending a delegation of representative men, chosen by the manufacturers and wool-growers in equal numbers, to Washington, to confer with each other, with the members of Congress, and with the Congressional committees having charge of the subject. The result of these combined efforts we have substantially in the Bingham bill. Upon its passage all agitation on the part of the wool-growers at once ceased, although many were still dissatisfied and believed that their representatives in the lobby had been overreached and that the manufacturers had managed to obtain an undue advantage in the details of the bill as finally passed. They never-theless acquiesced, lest by any expression of dissent they might appear to be violating the good faith involved in their having consented to accept 31,200 cents from manufacturers, and lest they should seem to repudiate the action of their own delegates in the joint committee.

BAD FAITH.

But not so the free-traders. It soon appeared that the provisions of the act were to be evaded. Wool-upon-the-pelt—some of it purposely allowed to grow for two years—began to be imported, and the claim was made that wool thus upon the pelt must be admitted as pelts. This would have been right if it had been true that the pelts were the principal thing, and the wool upon them only the accessory. For the maxim is: "*Accessorius sequitur naturam sui principalis*"—the accessory follows the nature of its principal. But it was not true. On the contrary, the wool was the principal thing—the thing wanted—the thing of most value—the thing which constituted the very motive of its introduction—and the pelt was only the accessory. So that, according to the same maxim, wool upon the pelt should have paid the duty upon wool. This is clearly the law, and should have been the ruling of the Secretary when the question was submitted to him. But, strangely enough, Mr. Boutwell played into the hands of the plotters; and, upon an *ex parte* hearing of the importers alone, decided that wool upon the pelt should be admitted as pelts. When this ruling of the Secretary became known to the wool-growers, particularly in Ohio, you may be sure it created a breeze. After a time it was brought to the attention of Congress, and another act was passed, fixing the duty to be paid upon wool on the pelt as such, but allowing the ruling of the Secretary to stand as to the past, thus treating it as a "*casus omissus*" merely.

Then again: When the stores of foreign wool, brought in before the duty took effect, began to run low or had been exhausted, and when Congress began to cast about to see what could be done, as was said, to relieve the consumers at last year's session, by reducing the internal revenue taxes, and by a modification of the tariff, the free-traders and that portion of the manufacturers holding the same views, in further bad faith toward the wool-growers, and without consulting them, and without their being informed that such a thing was contemplated, procured Mr. Dawes to insert in their bill a clause taking off ten per cent. of the duties on wool, which became law.

And, in further bad faith toward the wool-growers, we now find the same element of opposition to the tariff arranged in active furtherance of what is called "reciprocity with Canada," and by all their teachings as political economists, in lectures, and through the press, moving your Excellency to recommend in your message the taking off of the duties on "fine wool," &c.

CUSTOMS DUTY ON WOOL.

This brings us again to the important question:

Should the duties on "fine wool," or on any wools, be taken off or reduced?

We answer, no.

We, as wool growers, say they should not, and in so doing we offer and maintain the following proposition:

The foreign producer must be made to pay to our Government, in customs duties, an amount equal to all the taxes, State and Federal, which our domestic producer has to pay, before we will open to him our markets.

This may appear to be laying down a new principle; but, whether new or not, it is the correct one. It is the true rule as grounded in both justice and expediency. It only puts the domestic upon the same footing with the foreign producer in our own markets. It is, therefore, in favor itself and equal in its operations. Can the foreigner ask more? Can even the free trader in ourown or any other country ask more? —unless he would do what is impossible—knock off all the taxes of the domestic producer and release him from all obligations to contribute in any way to the support of his government! There are only the two ways in which equal justice can be done—either to tax both, or to let both go free.

We need not vindicate our principle as above formulated from the charge of novelty. We are more concerned to prove that it is right, and to that purpose will direct and confine our efforts. We believe, indeed, that what we have already said is sufficient. But there are other things having an important bearing on the subject.

A great deal has been said about a prohibitory tariff—a tariff for protection—a tariff for revenue—a tariff for revenue with incidental protection, etc., etc. It all seems to us to be but "darkening counsel by words without knowledge." Led but by the principle we advocate be made the rule in the enactments of the Legislature, and the result will work itself out. It will work itself out in consistency with the reason and nature of things. And its determinations will be right; whether in any of its provisions they should in practice amount to prohibition, to protection, to revenue, or to neither.

In other words: A tariff, framed upon the principle we advocate, will take from the foreigner the vantage ground he occupies, and which enables him to undersell the domestic producer in his own market. Such a tariff, if it produced enough, as it may do, for the wants of the Government, would be a revenue tariff. If, in addition to that, it enabled the domestic to compete with the foreign producer in the home market, it would be a tariff for revenue with incidental protection. If it enabled the domestic to undersell and to drive the foreign producer from our market, it would be a prohibitory tariff as to that article, prohibitory. If, notwithstanding the duty he pays, the foreigner can still undersell the domestic producer in his own market, it will be demonstrated, as already shown in the case of the wool-grower, that the industry in which he is engaged cannot be made profitable, and the sooner he turns his energy and capital into some other channel the better for himself and for the whole country.

SOME QUESTIONS ASKED.

In this connection the wool-growers cannot help remarking, that, whilst the duty on "fine wool" is recommended to be taken off, no such recommendation is made in regard to the duties on woolen goods or manufactured articles. How does this happen? We must insist, that if one is done the other shall be done also. Why not? We have already shown that agriculture is the greater interest, and must continue to be so until population shall extend itself over and occupy the whole of our vast country. It is the greater interest, and as the greater is entitled to the greater consideration. We ask for it only equal consideration. Are all the rest of us to be made but hewers of wood and drawers of water to the manufacturers,

CONCLUSION.

In support of this whole argument, we might avouch the example of other countries. We might cite you to England and England's greatness. We might point you to the Lord Chancellor seated, in legal fiction, or, it may be in actual fact, upon the woolsack, presiding over the House of Lords. But we forbear. Our argument is complete without it.

And in conclusion, we ask your Excellency to hear us with patience, to re-examine the subject in the light of what we have advanced, to give to what we have advanced the consideration and weight to which it is entitled; and if that is done, we are sure that you will see as we do, and that you will modify or withdraw the recommendation of which we complain.

Columbus, Ohio, January 5, 1875.

LAKE SUPERIOR IRON DISTRICT.

Production and Shipments of Lake Superior Mines and Furnaces From 1856 to 1874. Inclusive.

[From the Marquette Iron Journal.]

The following table exhibits in gross tons the amount of iron ore shipped from the Lake Superior mines during the season of 1874, together with its value on the cars at the mines:

Mine.	Gross Tons	Value.
Jackson	166,600	$ 583,600 00
New York	77,910	423,555 00
Cleveland	199,586	997,930 00
Lake Superior	314,074	627,407 00
Champion	46,709	257,220 50
Washington	28,500	156,750 00
Republic	126,956	698,258 00
Kloman	35,088	192,984 00
Lucerne	18,931	103,120 50
Barnum	41,403	227,716 50
Foster	31,318	172,249 00
Salisbury	7,440	29,920 00
Lake Angeline	31,526	173,393 00
Pittsburgh and Lake Superior	1,592	7,491 00
Edwards	2,849	13,693 50
Spurr Mountain	42,068	231,374 00
Michigamme	45,294	249,117 00
Keystone	5,327	26,748 50
McComber	2,641	10,564 00
Winthrop	8,242	32,968 00
Hematite	7,540	37,193 00
Saginaw	45,486	250,173 00
Barr	948	3,792 00
Bagnley	541	3,164 00
Howell Hoppock	968	5,324 00
Bunn	726	3,993 00
Goodrich	3,100	17,050 00
Home	1,012	8,536 00
Rolling Mill	12,042	66,231 00
Teal Lake	2,610	10,440 00
Excelsior	1,905	4,200 00
Williams	593	2,372 00
Allen	130	520 00
Stewart	300	1,677 50
Gilmore	162	648 00
Miller	1,717	6,868 00
Total	935,490	$5,068,979 00

The following table shows the aggregate production of the several furnaces in the Lake Superior district for the year 1874, with value of the iron at furnace:

Furnaces.	Gross Tons.	Value.
Pioneer	7,230	$ 210,240
Michigan	6,621	185,388
Greenwood	4,833	133,492
Bancroft	5,688	159,264
Morgan	5,973	167,244
Champion	1,581	44,268
Deer Lake	6,524	182,672
Fayette	11,079	310,212
Jay	14,007	392,196
Munising	6,092	170,576
Grace	3,546	99,288
Marquette and Pacific	3,238	90,664
Isbpeming (peat)	490	12,600
Escanaba	6,337	177,436
Carp River	3,575	89,500
Menominee	4,942	138,376
Cliffs	4,772	133,616
Total	90,691	$2,833,832

The following table exhibits, in gross tons, the aggregate product of each mine from 1856 to 1874, inclusive of both:

Mines.	Gross tons.	Mines.	Gross tons.
Jackson	1,416,171	Green Bay	9,582
New York	396,672	Emma	7,883
Cleveland	1,265,923	Rolling Mill	34,734
Lake Superior	3,458,785	Minnesota	24,863
Marquette	53,146	Smith	22,779
Champion	354,418	Grand Central	21,384
Washington	275,324	Maitland	4,517
Republic	243,432	New England	108,990
Kloman	56,153	Allen	9,347
Cascade	76,078	Gerlbich	8,559
Barnum	216,456	Home	8,220
Foster	106,471	Magnetic	78
Rowland	2,278	Iron Mountain	16,706
Salisbury	7,480	Hungerford	145
Lake Angeline	371,206	Newsome	1,956
Pittsburgh & Lake Superior	24,020	Negaunee	11,681
Edwards	150,656	Matheson	2,007
Spurr Mountain	74,601	Franklin	4,433
Michamme	74,401	Michigan	715
Keystone	15,653	Excelsior	1,821
McComber	85,763	Williams	1,040
Hilton	2,074	Teal Lake	2,610
Winthrop	66,815	Stewart	300
Shenango	16,404	Gilmore	162
Albion	2,288	Miller	1,717
Carr	2,021	Other small	
Bagley	6,243	mines	37,920
Howell Hoppeck	2,301	Total	7,648,280

The following table shows the total product of the Lake Superior furnaces from 1858 to 1874, inclusive:

Furnaces.	Gross Tons.	Furnaces.	Gross Tons.
Pioneer	85,775	Bay	29,113
Northern	16,068	Munising	18,388
Collins	42,949	Grace	11,346
Michigan	58,435	Marquette & Pac.	9,936
Greenwood	38,607	Ishpeming (peat)	1,150
Bancroft	47,039	Escanaba	8,510
Morgan	40,286	Carp River	1,575
Champion	31,096	Menominee	4,342
Deer Lake	29,524	Cliffs	3,540
Fayette	67,260		
Total			517,921
Marquette and Pacific (mock bar and merchant iron)			1,427
Grand total			519,351

Our reports of the iron ore and pig iron production of the district for 1874 show a decrease of 231,891 tons ore, and an increase of 18,887 tons pig metal, as compared with 1873. This is a better showing than we anticipated a year ago, and speaks volumes in favor of the energy and vitality which characterizes the management of our mines and furnaces.

The following table shows the actual shipments of pig iron from the furnaces of this district in 1874, together with the average value in market:

Furnaces.	Gross Tons	Value.
Pioneer	7,230	$ 233,280
Michigan	6,579	230,126
Greenwood	5,438	174,016
Bancroft	5,356	113,792
Morgan	4,705	137,250
Champion	1,581	50,592
Deer Lake	6,040	193,280
Fayette	9,004	288,128
Bay	7,579	242,528
Munising	6,092	194,944
Grace	5,749	183,968
Marquette and Pacific	1,527	48,864
Ishpeming (peat)	450	14,400
Escanaba	5,642	180,544
Carp River	1,573	44,044
Menominee	4,942	158,144
Cliffs	3,540	113,280
Total	84,489	$2,703,648

The following is a statement in gross tons of the aggregate yield of the mines and furnaces in this district from 1856 to 1874, inclusive, together with the value of the same:

Year.	Iron Ore.	Pig Iron.	Ore and Pig Iron.	Value.
1856	7,000	7,000	$	28,000 00
1857	21,000	21,000		63,000 00
1858	31,055	1,629	32,684	249,202 00
1859	65,679	7,258	72,937	575,529 00
1860	116,038	5,988	122,026	736,494 00
1861	45,430	7,970	53,400	419,501 00
1862	115,722	8,500	124,311	1,000,420 00
1863	185,251	9,815	195,070	1,416,305 00
1864	226,123	13,839	248,955	1,867,215 00
1865	196,254	12,282	208,536	1,590,432 00
1866	299,972	18,457	318,409	2,406,990 00
1867	466,076	30,911	493,987	3,478,820 00
1868	502,813	38,240	541,053	3,946,213 00
1869	633,258	39,063	672,241	4,968,435 00
1870	804,417	49,959	855,766	6,417,745 00
1871	843,379	51,225	894,604	6,115,885 00
1872	562,053	63,195	1,015,250	9,188,055 00
1873	1,167,372	71,507	1,238,879	11,150,911 00
1874	953,488	90,494	1,029,982	7,592,811 00
Total	7,648,280	519,351	8,167,631	$83,366,731 00

THE Governor of Michigan, a State with a prohibitory law and 6,000 liquor saloons, asks the Legislature in his message, "Why not recognize the fact that there is a difference between drinking and drunkenness?" He favors a license law, with a broad distinction in the amount of tax between the sale of distilled liquors and malt beverages. Bonds to ensure that the law would be required from the saloon keepers, who should be forbidden to sell to apprentices, minors and common drunkards, and should be obliged to shut their doors at a reasonable hour of the night, and to do no business on holidays and election days. These are sensible ideas, and, in connection with stringent inspection and against adulteration of liquors, would be much better than any "prohibitory" system. In this way, the sale of malt beverages and light wines would be encouraged at the expense of distilled liquors.

THE "LITTLE TARIFF BILL."

New Rates of Importation—Duty on Moosic Iron—Collection of Internal Revenue.

WASHINGTON, January 19.—The following is the act to amend existing customs and internal revenue laws, known as the "Little Tariff bill," as agreed upon by the Conference Committee. The report has been concurred in by the Senate, and now awaits the action of the House of Representatives:

That from and after the date of the passage of this act, in lieu of the duties heretofore imposed on the importation of the goods, wares and merchandise hereinafter specified, the following rates of duties shall be exacted:—

On spun silk for filling, in skeins or cops, 35 per cent. ad valorem; on silk in the gum, not more advanced than single train and thrown or organzine, 35 per cent. ad valorem; on floss silks, 35 per cent. ad valorem; on sewing silk, in the gum or purified, 40 per cent. ad valorem; on lastings, mohair cloth, silk twist or other manufactures of cloth, woven or made in patterns of such size, shape or form, or cut in such manner as to be fit for buttons exclusively, 10 per cent. ad valorem; on all goods, wares and merchandise not otherwise herein provided for, made of silk, or of which silk is the component material of chief value, irrespective of the classification thereof for duty or under previous laws, or of their commercial designation, 60 per cent. ad valorem; *provided*, that this act shall not apply to goods, wares or merchandise which have as a component material thereof 25 per cent. or over in value of cotton, flax, wool or worsted.

SEC. 2. That from and after the passage of this act, in lieu of the duties now imposed by law on the merchandise hereinafter enumerated, imported from foreign countries, there shall be levied, collected and paid the following duties:—That is to say, on all still wines imported in casks, 40 cents per gallon; on all still wines imported in bottles, $1 60 per case of one dozen bottles, containing each not more than one quart and more than one pint, or 24 bottles containing each not more than one pint and any excess beyond these quantities found in such bottles shall be subject to a duty of five cents per pint or fractional part thereof, but no separate or additional duty shall be collected on the bottles; *provided*, that any wines imported containing more than 24 per cent. of alcohol, shall be forfeited to the United States; *provided*, also, that there shall be an allowance of 1 per cent., and no more, on all effervescing wines, liquors, cordials and distilling spirits in bottles, to be deducted from the invoice quantity in lieu of breakage.

SEC. 3. That all imported wines of the character provided for in the preceding section which may remain in public store or bonded warehouse on the day this act shall take effect shall be subject to another duty upon the withdrawal thereof for consumption than if the same were imported after that day; *provided*, that only such wines remaining on shipboard within the limits of any port of entry in the United States on the day aforesaid, duties unpaid, shall, for the purposes of this section, be considered as constructively in public store or bonded warehouse.

SEC. 4. That on and after the date of the passage of this act, in lieu of the duties imposed by law on the articles in this section enumerated, there shall be levied, collected and paid on the goods, wares and merchandise in this section enumerated and provided for, imported from foreign countries, the following duties and rates of duties, that is to say, on hops 8 cents per pound; on chromate and bichromate of potasse, 4 cents per pound; on macaroni and vermicelli and on all similar preparations, 2 cents per pound; on nitro benzole or oil of mirbane, 10 cents per pound; on tin in plates or sheets, and on terne and taggers' tin, 1 1-10 cents per pound; on anchovies and sardines, packed in oil or otherwise, 15 cents per pound per whole box, measuring not more than five inches long, four inches wide, and three and one-half inches deep, 7½ cents for each half box measuring not more than five inches long, four inches wide, and one and five-eighth inches deep, and 4 cents for each quarter box measuring not more than five inches long, four inches wide and 1½ inches deep, when imported in other form; 60 per cent. ad valorem; *provided*, that cans or packages made of tin or other material, containing fish of any kind admitted free of duty under any existing law or treaty, not exceeding 1 quart in contents, shall be subject to a duty of 1½c on each can or package, and, when exceeding one quart, shall be subject to an additional duty of 1½c for each additional quart or fractional part.

SEC. 5. That yellow sheathing metal and yellow metal bolts, of which the component part of chief value is copper shall be deemed manufactures of copper, and shall pay the duty now imposed by law for the manufactures of copper, and shall be entitled to the drawback allowed by law to copper and composition metal wheneven the same shall be used in the construction, or equipment, or repair of vessels built in the United States for the purpose of being employed in the foreign trade, including the trade between the Atlantic and Pacific ports of the United States.

SEC. 6. That section 4 of the act entitled "An act to reduce duties on imports and to reduce internal taxes and for other purposes," approved June 6, 1872, be and the same is hereby amended, by striking out the thirtieth paragraph of said section in relation to duty on Moosic iron manufactured and after the passage of this act the duty on Moosic iron, of whatever condition, grade or stage of manufacture, shall be the same as all other manufactures of iron. Like condition, grade or stage of manufacture.

SEC. 7. That the duty on jute butts shall be 86 per ton; *provided*, that all machinery now used or hereafter to be used in the United States, adapted exclusively to man